















Records  
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# Records of the Borough of Leicester

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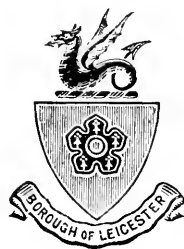
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## ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS.

### PAGE

- 1, note 1. A similar charter of general pardon from Henry VIII is printed in full in Ogle, *Royal Letters of Oxford*.
- 22, note 3, *add* see p. 322.
- 25, note 3, *delete* note and *insert* Water for brewing purposes.
- 42, *for* holly boouys *read* holly boonys (Holy Bones), and *delete* note.
- 42, note 12, *read* for the Riding of the George.
- 48, *for* Cloughton *read* Stoughton.
- 63, *for* Newton *read* Newcom.
- 69, note 1, *delete* first two sentences and *insert* On Penny's connexion with Leicester see Throsby, p. 277.
- 72, note 8, *add* and Hugh Latimer, see North's *Chronicle of St Martin's*, p. 121.
- 80, note 4, *add* and bailiff 1553-4.
- 114, note 4, *delete* above p. 114.
- „ note 7, On the schoolmaster John Pott see Throsby, p. 367.
- 134, l. 14 from foot, *for* Sur *read* one.
- 148, (in CXC) *delete* Lancaster in.
- „ *after* £33. 6s. 8d. *insert* note (= 100 nobles).
- 166, *after* Nic. Harwar *insert* note (Master of Wigston's Hospital).
- 191, l. 10, *for* gallows *read* gallons.
- 197, l. 13 from foot, *before* Henry *insert* Sir.
- 217, note 15, *for* leas *read* lease.
- 218, note 2, *delete* (?) and *add* see p. 277.
- 229, (in CCLXXI) *add* a reference to Kelly's *Notices of Leicester*, pp. 112—118, 216—222.
- 253, l. 1, *add* note to the four colledges, (namely the College of St Mary, the hospital of St John (and with it St Leonard), and the gilds of Corpus Christi and St Margaret).
- 272, note 4, *for* 9 Eliz. *read* 15 Eliz. (see p. 148), and *for* father *read* brother.
- 300, *for* Brewer's *read* Brewers'.
- 313, l. 1, *for* Jusely *read* Inseley.
- 318, *for* Lybyns *read* Lybyus.
- 361, *for* Liben *read* Libeus.
- 399, last line of text, *for* between Okes and Rogers *read* Okes and Rogers pl. v. Herrick def.
- 409, *add* note to CCCCVII. A letter of Parkins on the charter and the glovers' case, quoted in Thompson, I. 311, has not been found.
- 417, *add* to note 1, the will is in Box No. 40, No. 884.
- 427, *add* a reference to Thompson, I. 313, giving another and fuller account from the Mayor to the Earl, which has not been found.
- 435, *supply* Walmer in the space, and *add* to note 2, See Thompson, I. 316.
- 436, *add* a reference to Thompson, I. 317, giving a letter from the Earl, dated Oct. 15, which has not been found.
- „ note 2, *add* see p. 448.

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS.

† ... † signifies that the passage is struck through in the ms.

† ... † is used for *sic*.

N. E. D. New English Dictionary.

D. S. P. Domestic State Papers.





## INTRODUCTION.

Relations with the Crown. The two Elizabethan Charters, p. xvii. Relations with the Hastings family, p. xxi. The Corporation and its officers, p. xxiv. Borough finance, p. xxx. The town-lands, p. xxxiv. Pastures, p. xxxvi. Post-horses, p. xxxvii. Trade regulations, p. xxxvii. Toll and stallage, p. xlii. Markets, p. xlv. Town-halls, p. xlv. Poor relief, p. xlv. The Free School, p. xlix. Religious teaching, p. l. Town preacher, p. l. Borough orphans, p. li. Mills and ovens, p. lii. Weights and measures, p. liv. Sanitation, p. lv. Pavements, Bridges, Water supply, p. lvi. Licensing system, p. lvi. Amusements, p. lix. Politics and sedition, p. lx. Morals, p. lxi. The council and the parishes, p. lxi. Town population, p. lxii. The records, p. lxiii.

*Relations with the Crown. The two Elizabethan Charters.* The present volume contains the record of municipal work done in the reigns of Henry VIII and his three successors by the close corporation which had been created by an Act of Parliament in 1489. For exactly a century the Act proved a sufficient instrument of government; it was not till 1589 that a new governing charter was obtained. The severity of the Elizabethan lawyers in dealing with communities which had not taken the necessary legal steps to become bodies 'corporate and politic in fact and in name,' was no doubt one chief cause which induced the Leicester town council to secure a charter of incorporation. There was always a risk lest 'misnomer of corporation' should invalidate legal transactions in which the council was concerned, unless the correct name and address of the body corporate had been formally recorded in a royal charter. In 1589 the Mayor, 24 brethren and 48 comburgesses, to whom Henry VII had given authority to act in the name of the whole body of inhabitants, were declared by charter to be a body corporate<sup>1</sup> with the name for ever of the 'Mayor and burgesses of the town of Leicester.'

The old term 'brethren' was changed to the more usual 'Aldermen';<sup>2</sup> and the term 'comburgesses,' which had been used to distinguish

<sup>1</sup> The preamble to the charter of 1589 alludes vaguely to the earlier 'corporate' state of the two Societies of Twenty-four and Forty-eight.

<sup>2</sup> In the preamble to the charter it is said that the 24 brethren had of old been called Aldermen (p. 247), but this was not consonant with the old Leicester usage.

the Forty-eight from the body of burgesses, was changed to 'burgesses'; vacancies in the Company of the Forty-eight 'burgesses' were to be filled up from the number of 'inhabitants' of Leicester. After the charter there were occasional allusions to the 'free burgesses,' meaning those persons who had been enrolled as members of the Chapman's Gild (p. 425), but the verbal change which was sanctioned by the charter went far to remove the last traces of the original share of the members of the borough community in the government of the borough. If only the members of the close corporation were to be called burgesses, the idea that they were acting on behalf of a larger body whose members also had burgess rights was the more easily lost to sight. The rest of the community were 'inhabitants'; 'commoners' if they contributed to borough charges, 'freemen' if they had paid the fees of the Chapman's Gild.

Even before the charter of 1589 a tendency was creeping in to use the convenient shorthand term 'corporation' for the cumbrous 'Mayor, brethren, and comburgesses' or its variants. The term 'corporation' was used in 1578 (p. 172), and the phrase 'the whole Company of the Twenty-four and Forty-eight now assembled for and in the name of the body politic and corporate of the town of Leicester' (p. 178) comes also from that year. This phrase marks a half-way stage between the 'Twenty-four and Forty-eight present in the name of the whole body of the town' which was long, truthful and historical, and the form introduced by the charter which was sufficiently legal but dangerously short.

It was the events of 1585-8 which brought the need of a charter of incorporation to the notice of the borough lawyers, for the council had been negotiating land conveyances on a large scale. In 1540 (p. 46), the two Companies had negotiated their leases in the name of the 'Mayor, burgesses and community' and in their name secured benefactions for the welfare of the borough; but the purchase of the lease of the Grange Farm<sup>1</sup> in the South Fields engaged the Companies in a number of transactions for which this phrase seemed unsuitable. It was not certain that all their transactions could be regarded as tending to the welfare of the community at large. But of the purchase of the Grange and of its effect on the corporation's view of the 'town's good' more will be said below. Certain it is that the purchase of the Grange lease paved the way to still larger

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<sup>1</sup> The site of the grange, where the College of St Mary had had a granary, is indicated by the name 'Grange Lane,' Thompson's *Leicester*, II. 235.

municipal speculations. It had long been desired<sup>1</sup> to purchase for a perpetual rent all the lands in the borough which owed rent to the Duchy of Lancaster or to the Crown. The council wanted the control of the leases, and also wished to redeem the small chief-rents due to the King from a number of tenements which were borough property (p. 7). The rents which were paid to the Duchy by the chamberlains (or borough treasurers) traced in some cases back to early times, when they were paid to the medieval Earls of Leicester: others arose out of the confiscations of the Reformation. The numerous tenements of the hospitals and gilds and of the College of St Mary, which had come to the Crown on the dissolution of charities and gilds, had been allowed to fall into disrepair, and the result of a commission of enquiry in 1587 (p. 239 *sqq.*) was to open the way for a municipal bargain. The sum required for adequate repairs was declared to be over £5000, and Queen Elizabeth, glad to escape the necessity of spending, agreed to part with the lands at a perpetual rent, the rent then actually due from the lands, namely, £137 odd. Leicester, which had failed throughout the medieval period to obtain the 'firma burgi,' succeeded in getting something like it in 1589. With the charter of incorporation was coupled a grant of crown and duchy lands in fee farm: a list of all the tenants who, under the grant of fee farm, owed rent to the corporation instead of to the Queen's collectors, forms part of the charter. Thus the houses and bits of land, which the burgesses of Leicester in former generations had bequeathed to the Leicester hospitals, gilds and charities, for their souls' ransom, came after many days to yield their rents to the borough treasury, and in this there was a measure of rough justice.

The charter of 1589 did not long give full satisfaction: in ten years the corporation sought a new charter and a fuller definition of powers. The name 'Mayor and burgesses of the town of Leicester' was to be changed to the 'Mayor, bailiffs and burgesses of the borough of Leicester,' a more usual form, and one which the corporation probably desired to secure in order to strengthen its hold on certain profitable issues, which had recently been leased to the borough by Sir Edward Hastings. In 1594 (pp. 299, 300), in return for a rent of £10, he had transferred to the corporation his profits from the borough court, namely, amercements, waifs and strays, felons' goods, and canmoll (the old fee due to the Earls of Leicester on the sale of beer by retail<sup>2</sup>); and in 1597 (pp. 339, 348) he gave up

<sup>1</sup> It had been proposed in 1579 (pp. 177-8).

<sup>2</sup> *Records*, i. p. 207.

his office of Steward of the town of Leicester, 'otherwise called Town Clerk,' an act which was confirmed by the Queen under the seal of the Duchy Court. It was stipulated only that a second copy of the court rolls of the town, hitherto kept no doubt by the Steward, should still be kept and should be deposited in the Duchy Court. This made it desirable that the office of the Steward, and of the bailiffs who were his executive officers, should be recognised in the borough charter. The corporation had long sought to secure the control of the bailiwick, and had purchased leases from the Danets, who held the office by letters patent. During the term of the lease the corporation had generally nominated two bailiffs, changing one at least yearly. The corporation sought a permanent grant in 1552 (p. 69), and again tried for a clause in the charter of 1589 (pp. 235, 238), but so far had not succeeded. The charter of 1599 secured to the 24 Aldermen the right to elect<sup>1</sup> a Recorder<sup>2</sup>, a Steward, two bailiffs, a town or Mayor's clerk, and serjeants-at-mace; half of the serjeants-at-mace had hitherto been nominated by the bailiff (pp. 299, 316).

The first occupants of these offices were named in the charter; the then Recorder was continued; Thomas Ward, who had been Sir E. Hastings' deputy, was continued as Steward, and two new bailiffs were named. In attempting to work the charter, the corporation found it necessary to acknowledge John Wilne, who had been holding the office of bailiff (pp. 299, 316, 383, 389); and the other two bailiffs are heard of no more. The question of the corporation's rights in elections to these offices was reopened in the next reign.

The other clauses of the charter can be briefly summarized. Under the name of the Mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses, the charter gave to the corporation a constant succession and power to use a common seal, a point omitted in the earlier charter. The charter of 1589 had given authority in general terms to the court of the borough, the Portmanmoot. Under the charter of 1599 the court's jurisdictional rights were more closely defined. The Leicester justices of the peace by the charter of Henry VII (Vol. II. p. 366) had power to try all cases of felony, but the charter of 1599 required a special mandate for the trial by justices of the peace of any case touching life and limb. The borough court was declared to be a court of record, its powers were defined, and its jurisdiction in real actions acknowledged.

In conclusion the charter recorded the grant to the borough of a

<sup>1</sup> The charter of 1589 had made rules only for the election of the mayor.

<sup>2</sup> The coroners and justices of the peace were elected under the charter of Edward IV. *Records*, II. p. 280.



right which had long been sought. The exempt jurisdictions of the Bishop's Fee, the parishes of St Mary and St Leonard, and the Newark, were brought under municipal control. The relations of the Bishop's Fee to the borough had given trouble all through mediæval times, as has been noticed in our earlier volumes. The inclusion of the Fee had been asked for in 1552 (p. 69) and the inclusion of all the privileged areas had been asked for in 1589 (p. 233). Even after the charter of 1599, the rights of the corporation remained but ill defined; dispute with the inhabitants of Newark began at once (pp. 423, 443) and lasted on into the next reign.

The inclusion of a special acknowledgement of the corporation's right to issue licences for retail trade and to forbid unlicensed retail trade (fair-times excepted) was due to the difficulty which had arisen just at this time with the glovers of certain neighbouring market-towns, who refused to purchase the Leicester licence, and persisted in visiting the Leicester market. The details of the dispute will be discussed below.

Finally the charter contained a clause to support the corporation in enforcing a bylaw on the subject of malt-kilns (as a precaution against fire and perhaps to repress a nuisance); there was also a clause to secure the legitimacy of the newly-established wool-market, whose tolls and profits were to be used for the relief of the poor.

The charters of 1589 and of 1599 did not accord to the corporation by any means all the privileges which had been made the subject of petition. It had been hoped to make the town a county of itself, mainly with a view to a more complete control of the commission of musters and the commission for levying subsidies; perhaps also with a view to the enjoyment of other subordinate privileges enjoyed by cities that were counties, such as the licensing of butchers to kill in Lent (p. 396). It was hoped (p. 238) that the Mayor's probate of wills and bonds for orphans' goods and punishment of loose women would all be authorized explicitly by the charter, but these matters were eventually left to be dealt with in the customary way without specific authority. In one form of the petition for a new charter (p. 239), it was suggested that 'the inhabitants of the town and parishes be free burgesses of the town,' but both charters treat the members of the corporation alone as burgesses and lay down no rule on the subject.

*Relations with the Hastings family.* It was probably hoped in the borough that the charter would leave the corporation in permanent possession of the stewardship and bailiwick, and so rid it of that measure of dependence on the Hastings family which the Hastings'

stewardship of the honour and town of Leicester secured. The presence in the borough court of a Steward and Bailiff not of the corporation's appointing was among the last evidences of the seignorial power of the feudal lords of the borough. But the charter had not finally settled the matter. The precise relationship of the honour court and borough court, and of the Stewardship of the honour and the Stewardship of the borough, were questions which could be reopened at any time. Sir Edward Hastings had only been able to alienate his life interest in the profits of the borough court, and in the next reign the Hastings family recovered a measure of control, as the result of a compromise<sup>1</sup>.

It was as Stewards of the Honour (called also the Town), that the Hastings family had first obtained authority in Leicester. On the first page of our text, George, third Baron Hastings (afterwards first Earl of Huntingdon), appears as Steward, required by royal precept to lead the inhabitants of Leicester to war in case of need ; later on his son Francis, the second Earl, appears in the same position (p. 48). They did not as Stewards actually preside over any local court, but appointed deputies for this work : they served however in person on the commissions of musters and for the collection of subsidies, and hence appear often in the borough accounts as recipients of complimentary gifts. The Stewardship and Receivership of the Honour was held for a time by Edward, Lord Hastings of Loughborough, the brother of Francis. On Edward's death in 1573 both offices were conferred by patent on Henry the third Earl (p. 148), who negotiated in 1591 that his brother Sir Edward Hastings should receive the Stewardship. It was Henry, the third Earl, Queen Elizabeth's possible successor, President of the Council of the North, Lord Lieutenant of the county of Leicester, a member of all the commissions of musters and subsidies, who was first able to convert his Stewardship of the honour into a guardianship of the borough of a very practical sort. The name of the Earl of Huntingdon in the Elizabethan records occupies the place of the Earl of Leicester in the medieval records. To the men of Leicester, the Earl of Huntingdon was *the* earl; Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, once visited the town, was feasted, and distributed largess (pp. 201, 205), but he came only as the Earl of Huntingdon's brother-in-law (Catharine Dudley was Countess of Huntingdon), as a guest, and not as one having official rights in the borough.

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<sup>1</sup> The proceedings and final compromise are described in Thompson's *Leicester*, I. 330-4.

Henry, Earl of Huntingdon, bought (about 1562) the site of the abbey of St Mary de Pratis from William Lord Parr, Marquis of Northampton, to whom it had been granted by the Crown: eventually the house which the Earl built from the abbey materials passed to his brother Sir Edward Hastings<sup>1</sup>. In 1569<sup>2</sup> the Earl of Huntingdon bought a residence in Leicester, in the Swinesmarket, or High Street, and this was known as Lord's Place. His relations with the borough were for the more part friendly: he was viewed rather as a powerful patron than as a dangerous official with rights of a definite kind. His friendship meant direct financial aid, for instance, in loans and in gifts for the relief of the poor; his alliance secured support in high places in the event of litigation. His enmity could no longer make itself felt in the despotic government of feudal lordship, that lordship having passed to the Crown; but by indirect means he could make his power dangerous to the town, and this appears clearly in his correspondence with the Mayor. He and his brother George, who succeeded him in the earldom in 1595, could, as Lords Lieutenant, determine the amount of the military levy much at their pleasure (pp. 262, 400, 423): and their aid was all important in determining to the advantage of the borough any points in dispute with the county; as for instance touching the relations with neighbouring markets, or the county's contribution to poor relief or hospital maintenance (pp. 387, 397, 419, 422-9).

The relations of the town with Henry were more amicable than those with his successor. Henry's Puritan leanings were, it would seem, acceptable to the majority in the town, and on more than one occasion the town had reason to be grateful to him for his willingness to accede to petitions for relief. He lent and gave money in aid of the scheme to start a workhouse, where the poor would be taught weaving (pp. 134, 200, 283, 346), and in consequence his consent had to be asked when a new 'clothier' was appointed to manage the industry. In the same way he lent or gave money for providing a stock of coal and gave the carriage (pp. 178-9, 202, 278, 283); he gave a sum of £40 for the relief of the poor (p. 346). He is said to have given money to the foundation of a lectureship, and he exercised control over the appointment of the lecturer (pp. 118, 226). In return for these loans and gifts<sup>3</sup> he expected to have his wishes

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<sup>1</sup> Nichols, II., ii. App. p. 287.

<sup>2</sup> Nichols, IV., i. App. p. 532.

<sup>3</sup> It is not quite clear how much he gave and how much he lent. Throsby, p. 176, names certain of his benefactions, but the gifts are not all recorded in our text.

regarded in appointments of all kinds. He interfered in such small matters as the lease of the sheep-pens (p. 188) and the nomination of the wool-hall keeper (p. 373); believing (wrongly) that the Recorder intended to resign, he suggested a successor (p. 278); and in the elections to Parliament he regularly made his wishes known. With regard to parliamentary elections, however, there were rival powers, for the Chancellor of the Duchy, and the Privy Council also, wrote letters to the borough on this subject (pp. 209-11, 227, 289, 331, 336-7). The town was mainly anxious to secure a member who would pay his own expenses (pp. 290, 336). One member promised to take nothing for his expenses unless he 'did good' to the town (p. 188). The town desired that the member should be one of the burgesses if possible (p. 290). The story of the election of a candidate who appeared in the Earl's livery (a blue coat with a bull's head crest), and presented himself as the Earl's man, though the Earl had strenuously opposed him, is an amusing instance of the miscarriage of influence (pp. 435-6, 448)<sup>1</sup>.

For the rest, the Earls of Huntingdon and the members of their family appear with other great lords as recipients and donors of gifts of courtesy, and as the owners of companies of strolling players, of bearwards, jesters and minstrels.

*The Corporation and its Officers.* If on the one hand the two 'Companies' of the Twenty-four and Forty-eight were sometimes called the 'corporation' before the formal act of incorporation, on the other hand the phrases which implied that the corporation was there to act on 'the town's behalf' and to administer the 'town land' for the public advantage continue to appear on the council's minutes after that formal act<sup>2</sup>. The language of the charter of incorporation, as we have noticed, tended to obscure the fact that the close corporation had been created to administer the 'town's good' for the town's advantage: but the spirit of the Middle Ages was not yet dead, and spoke in the language of the Tudor corporators. The Elizabethan town-clerk, William Dethick, did not share the opinion of his successor of 1835, who maintained that the 'town land' in the South Fields was 'the absolute property of the corporation, altogether independent of any moral obligation to apply it to the use of any other than the select body'<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> The story has been told in Thompson's *Leicester*.

<sup>2</sup> A list of examples is given in the *Report of the Commissioners on Municipal Corporations*, 1835, p. 1894.

<sup>3</sup> *Ib.* p. 1894.

The two 'Companies' or 'societies' of Twenty-four and Forty-eight are referred to under various titles in these records. The Twenty-four (of whom the Mayor was one) were called the Mayor's brethren, or the Masters of the Bench (p. 38), or the Masters (p. 29), or the Bench (pp. 4, 285), or the 'worshipful company of the Four-and-twenty' (pp. 159, 168). When the Mayor and his brethren gave courtesies to magnates visiting the town, Mistress Mayoress, and her 'sisters' (the wives of the brethren), gave courtesies to the magnates' wives (for instance p. 57). The formality of setting a new member of the Twenty-four upon the Bench was performed in the Portmanmoot, in open court (p. 332). Until 1599 the term Alderman had been the title of ten out of the Twenty-four who were the superior officers of wards, and of their office more will be said below, but the charter of 1599 gave the title Alderman to each of the Four-and-twenty, as was usual in many other boroughs<sup>1</sup>. The Forty-eight were sometimes called the 'commonty' (p. 29) because they represented (in the old idea) the commons of the borough; sometimes the Council (p. 159), the comburgesses, and, after the charter of 1599, the Common Council (p. 361). The earliest lists of the members of the Companies come from 1558-9. Later in Elizabeth's reign the town-clerk made lists of those present at all the larger common halls. We have no ready means of forming a statistical estimate of the trade or craft interests represented in the Companies, but there is no indication that the choice of councillors was restricted in any way to particular trades or crafts.

Many bylaws were passed on the subject of refusal to serve as Mayor or as one of the Twenty-four, and heavy fines were paid to obtain release from service for a term of years. There seems to have been no unwillingness to serve as a member of the Forty-eight, who were less often summoned and less heavily taxed than the Twenty-four: no fine was exacted for 'redemption' of this service. A vacancy in the Forty-eight was filled by the election of a freeman of the borough (p. 318), the choice lying with the Twenty-four. Only members of the Forty-eight were eligible to vacancies among the Twenty-four, but sometimes the freedom of the borough, membership of the Forty-eight, and membership of the Twenty-four, were conferred simultaneously on some wealthy new-comer whose services were required (pp. 193-4). Resignation of membership of either Company could be allowed (p. 164), and cases of dismissal from the Twenty-four and Forty-eight are recorded. One was dismissed from the 'Company and Counsel of the town' 'for divers causes objected'

<sup>1</sup> In London there had been 24 wards with 24 Aldermen.

(p. 157), one for a moral offence (p. 318), and in 1599 five were dismissed from the Forty-eight for debt or absence, and one because he was 'decayed in substance and ability.'

The members of the two Companies were subjected in some cases to heavier penalties than other persons for the infringement of borough laws. But as of old burgesses<sup>1</sup> had been exempted from the severer forms of imprisonment, so in the Tudor period the comburgesses or members of the two Companies were similarly exempt. A bylaw of 1581 (p. 185) ordered that members of the Forty-eight should be imprisoned at the new and not at the old hall, where the dungeons were probably fouler. It was left also to the Mayor's pleasure to decide whether the hall door should be locked upon imprisoned members of this Company or not, a remnant probably of the old doctrine that an offending burgess had a claim to the mitigated form of confinement known as 'free custody.' Some money fines were doubled for the Twenty-four; or doubled for the Forty-eight and quadrupled for the Twenty-four (pp. 16, 181); and there were many bylaws fixing penalties for neglect of public duties on the part of members of the two Companies, for instance neglect of summons, refusal to 'wait on the Mayor' at fair-times (as a body-guard), and fines for lateness in arrival at common halls, or for early departure.

There was no bylaw to determine on what occasion the Forty-eight as well as the Twenty-four should be summoned, nor any to determine how many members of each Company or of the two jointly must be present to give validity to the proceedings. In 1590 it was ordered that the members of either of the Companies who absented themselves from a meeting for the election of the Mayor or from other meetings should have no vote for the election or 'for any other matter at any common hall hereafter.' The Mayor was to be elected by such of the two Companies as were present 'and so likewise of other matters at all other Common Halls.' Nevertheless in 1596 it was decided that as only 26 out of the two Companies were present, the meeting could not be held (p. 327). The cases in which voting is mentioned are rare, and they reveal how many constitutional points were still allowed to remain undecided. Although there are references in the earlier minutes to matters agreed to by both Companies 'or the most part' (p. 188), until 1591 the records contain nothing of the nature of a division list, or clear indication of voting. The first meeting in which a division is described was that in which the union of the parishes of St Peter and All Saints was

<sup>1</sup> See the examples cited in my *Borough Customs*, I. (Selden Society), pp. 64-7.

discussed. There was a party in favour of union with St Martin's, and the town-clerk's account of the division is curious. He notes the assembly of 55 of both Companies, 'whereof all but 13 or 15 gave their consents to the union, for that they were bidden by Mr Mayor that so many as would not consent thereunto should go forth of the hall or parlour. So as thereupon there went out but 15 or thereabouts, the Mayor remaining in the parlour' (p. 271). The importance of the Mayor's vote or 'voice' is dwelt on again in 1593 (p. 290), when there was a division on the question whether or no the Chancellor of the Duchy might nominate one of the burgesses of Parliament, 'and by some five or six of the elders, it was agreed that he should have it. But by the most and greater part with the consent of the Mayor it was agreed to have no stranger, and thereupon the Mayor was chosen by the most part of the two Companies, especially of the Forty-eight, *and by himself*, to be a Burgess of Parliament.' The 'ancients' of the two Companies are often somewhat vaguely spoken of as persons of superior importance, and the idea that quality, at all events the quality of seniority in office<sup>1</sup>, was in part a determinant of the value of votes, seems to have been present in the mind at least of the town-clerk, and perhaps generally. The side which had failed to secure the Mayor's support might fail to win, even though it had a majority. Unless there was pretty general unanimity of opinion among the 'ancients,' it might be a case of 'speeches used, but not agreed upon and therefore not executed' (p. 281). A close division on the subject of the assize of beer, 25 to 23, led to the withholding of any new assize, only because the parties were so far from unanimous on the subject of price (p. 322).

In 1555 (pp. 83-4) the question of the official dress of the Twenty-four and the Forty-eight was under discussion. The charter of John of Gaunt had promised 'robes of his livery' to the two town bailiffs (II. p. 152) but no reference to official dress is made till in 1555 some 'newfangledness' was proposed which called forth the opposition of the Lord Chancellor, and also of the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, who warned the Mayor and his brethren to keep to the old customs. Six weeks later the first 'act for wearing of scarlet' appears upon the records, a scarlet gown being required of the Mayor only. He was required to use it as of ancient time and on the accustomed occasions. Later on these were defined as Christmas,

<sup>1</sup> Compare the allusions to 'ancients' selected from both Companies for particular purposes pp. 117-8, 324.

New Year, Twelfth-day, Easter, Whitsunday, and the fair-days (p. 172), and later on the 'Queen's Majesty's day,' and to meet the judges at the assizes (p. 242). In 1575, when the town was preparing for the Queen's visit, it was ordered that the Mayor and all former Mayors should wear scarlet, and the rest of the Twenty-four black gowns of new, decent, and comely fashion. The Forty-eight were to wear coats of black cloth, guarded with velvet. Both Companies were to ride, but only the Twenty-four had to have a footman and foot-cloths or horse trappings. The Twenty-four were fined for not wearing gowns at common halls, and for appearing in white hose (p. 102); gowns at the close of the century were required also of the Forty-eight (p. 348), and the Companies had to wear them at assizes, sessions and fairs (p. 353). In 1599 (p. 382) 'they which wear scarlet' were required to wear caps in fine weather. The Recorder wore a scarlet gown, purchased at the expense of the town (p. 180). The other gowns were not provided at the town's expense.

In the accounts of the election to the Mayoralty there is no evidence pointing to a system of rotation. Generally two persons were nominated, and the one not elected stood again next year. The Mayor's fee of £10 was in 1572 raised to £13. 6s. 8d. 'towards the better maintenance of his housekeeping' (p. 137). The Recorder's salary of £1. 6s. 8d. was raised to £4, and the fee of the Mayor's clerk, who was also clerk of the peace, was raised from 6s. 8d. to 33s. 4d. The real source of his income was fees paid on admission to the Chapman's Gild, the Companies and the like, and fees for legal business (p. 159).

The two Chamberlains were chosen, one from the Twenty-four, the other from the Forty-eight<sup>1</sup>. They received a pound apiece for their work in drawing up the borough accounts and surveying the borough property. Many were willing to pay a heavy fine to redeem themselves from service as Chamberlains. The ten Aldermen of the ten wards received no yearly salary. They seem to have held office for life, the succession being determined by the Twenty-four<sup>2</sup>. Within their wards it was their duty to see to the execution of the borough bylaws. They acted at first as ale-tasters, but an Alderman who was himself a brewer had to leave the testing in his ward to the

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<sup>1</sup> On pp. 141-2 an election of one chamberlain by the 'commonalty' is spoken of: this does not mean the community of freemen (as the Commission of 1835 believed, *Report*, p. 1892); the Forty-eight were, it would seem, sometimes called the 'commonty' (p. 29), keeping to the old idea that this Company represented the 'commons' in some sort.

<sup>2</sup> It does not appear that all were former Mayors, though this was true of many.



Alderman of another ward (p. 16). Occasionally the council appointed special officers as ale-tasters, but they were not elected with the same regularity as the fish, leather, and meat-testers. Besides seeing to the enforcement of the assizes of bread and beer, the Aldermen had to register all guests at inns, on the report of their hosts (p. 75); they administered poor relief within their wards (pp. 155, 202); they saw to the arming of the men contributed by the wards to the general muster (p. 170); the duty of compelling the inhabitants to attend church and hear sermons on week-days was performed by constables of their appointing (p. 337): their consent was needed to the setting up of kilns (p. 216), either because they were surveyors of nuisances, or responsible for the protection of the wards from fire; they assessed the taxation of the subsidy in their wards (p. 101). They might appoint deputies. The constables were in some measure under their control (pp. 242, 337), but the constables and the frithborhs or 'third-barrows' of the wards were of the council's appointment (p. 164). The persons appointed as 'frithborhs' had to make presentments against offenders of all kinds. Unfortunately none of the Leicester 'presentments' has been kept for this period. The presentments were the principal means of bringing to the notice of the chief members of the council, sitting on the Bench in the Portmanmoot, the grievances most felt by the voteless burgess, who had no other means of making his opinion heard; that this was so is clearly brought out in the Nottingham records<sup>1</sup>. Much of the action of the council was doubtless suggested by these 'verdicts' of the sworn men of the wards. At Leicester it was further the frithborh's duty to 'give true warning nightly to the watchmen during the watching time<sup>2</sup>.' The constables made the arrests, supported the borough officers in the execution of their duty<sup>3</sup>, and were armed with bills and protected with head-pieces (p. 101).

*The Watch and the Waits.* The watchmen kept watch only during the summer months, from Ascension Eve to Michaelmas (pp. 319, 325, 420), according to the old rule reinforced by the Statute of Winchester. They were charged on Ascension Eve by the Mayor, and sworn in by the constables. It is not made clear whether the town-waits continued to serve as watchmen or not. The waits, who are repeatedly alluded to, were not, it would seem, a numerous company (p. 451). The town provided their livery of orange or tawny, their collars and scutcheons, the cinquefoil badges on their arms

<sup>1</sup> Cf. *Nottingham Records*, IV. 173.

<sup>2</sup> See the oath in II. 322.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

(pp. 170, 184, 194)<sup>1</sup>. They were paid at first by the fees they received when they acted as minstrels at private houses, and later on regular wages were paid by the council. The instruments they played were the bass and treble viol (p. 439). They attended partly as minstrels, partly perhaps as watchmen, upon the Mayor, when he perambulated the fairs, accompanied by other armed men<sup>2</sup>.

The Mayor's serjeant received a gown at the town's expense, but was paid by his fees till 1581, when the Twenty-four gave him 1s. each and the Forty-eight 6d. each per annum. There were beadles, whose tawny gowns were provided by the town (pp. 184, 206), and they received 20s. or 26s. 8d. a year (pp. 116, 264), probably acting as town-criers. A cleaner of the market-place got 6s. 8d. a year. The officers of the borough had become far more numerous than in the preceding period.

*Borough Finance.* The system of rating used by the close corporation of the sixteenth century is peculiar; it deserves a place in the history of the development of the 'corporation concept.' As it affords one of the best measures by which to estimate the equity of the proceedings of the governing body, and the morality of the principles which guided them in dealing with the borough community, entrusted without safeguard to their charge, it will be well to trace the steps by which this curious system was established. Until the middle of the century there was no regular system in the assessment of rates. Sometimes, as in 1515, a rate to pay off the borough debts was levied and assessed on the wards as though it had been a royal subsidy. On this occasion a sum of £21 was needed, about what a 'fifteenth' was expected to produce in Leicester. The Mayor and brethren were abused in 1517 for their assessment (p. 4), and in 1521 the two Companies sustained alone the charge for providing the King with ten archers. The Twenty-four agreed to provide five archers, the Forty-eight also five. This we shall find later on was the usual proportion in dividing the responsibilities of the two Companies. In 1540 the cost of getting the charters confirmed was defrayed mainly by the two religious guilds of Corpus Christi and St Margaret, each contributing £10. Perhaps a suspicion of the fate that was shortly to overtake them prompted this generosity. At the same time the butchers' and smiths' 'occupations' or fellowships contributed trifling sums. This

<sup>1</sup> A full account of the entries is given in Kelly's *Notices*, 133-9.

<sup>2</sup> Huvelin, *Essai historique sur le droit des marchés et des foires*, 1897, p. 345 note, gives examples to prove the antiquity of this armed perambulation of fairs.

method was not again adopted. In 1546 the Forty-eight promised to pay £10 towards the expense of the sheep-pens, and the Twenty-four are not mentioned (p. 53), but the record of their gift of a similar amount may be missing. In 1548 the levy of soldiers at a cost of £48 was defrayed by a collection made by the churchwardens of St Peter's, All Saints', St Margaret's, St Nicholas', St Martin's, and St Mary's. This parochial collection, the usual method for poor relief under act of Parliament, was not used again for other public purposes till in 1600 the parishes were required to contribute small weekly charges to the maintenance of maimed soldiers, the spital on Belgrave Road, the marshalsey or debtors' prison, and in aid of certain persons incurring loss by fire (p. 403). Next, in 1551, the two Companies took upon themselves the charges of a suit concerning the agistment of cattle in Beaumont Leys, the Twenty-four paying 2s. each, the Forty-eight 1s. each, each promising to pay more if more were needed. In 1554 a 'leyre' or rate was assessed 'in manner of a fifteenth,' to pay the expense of a confirmation of charters, but the Twenty-four were taxed at 5s. each, the Forty-eight at 2s. 6d. each, and the commoners were assessed in their wards, their share being £6. 14s. 4d. A similar scheme, the proportions again being a third from the Twenty-four, a third from the Forty-eight, and a third from commons, was used to pay for a levy of soldiers in 1558, for a confirmation of charters in 1559, for the repairs of the town with a view to the Queen's visit in 1562, to furnish armour and pikes in 1569, and to pay the expenses incurred in connexion with the Rebellion of the North in 1570. Between 1571-5 the two Companies took upon themselves the charge of post-horses, building a house by the school, repairing bridges, and providing the hall with leathern buckets for use in case of fire, and in 1575 each of the Twenty-four paid £2, each of the Forty-eight £1, towards the expenses of the Queen's visit. In 1555 it had been made a law that the expense of dinners, when presents of venison were consumed, should not be charged to the town account but should be defrayed by those of the Companies who partook (p. 83). This rule was occasionally contravened (p. 205). The sessions dinner provided by the Mayoress was always paid for by the borough.

In 1568 it was agreed by the Companies that ten shares in the state lottery<sup>1</sup> should be bought with £5 out of the town-stock; if

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<sup>1</sup> A full account of this lottery (drawn for in 1569) is given in Ashton's *Lotteries*, p. 529. The prizes were in money, plate, and tapestry, and the purpose was 'to repair the havens and strength of the realm and other public good works.'

any prize was won it was to go to increase the town-stock; if the investment were lost, the sum was to be made up, half by the Twenty-four, half by the Forty-eight. The close corporation of Leicester treated the borough more liberally than the corporation of Oxford, who bought a large number of shares out of a borough rate, without offering the same guarantee against loss<sup>1</sup>.

In 1577 the Twenty-four agreed to pay 4*d.* a week each to the relief of the poor, the Forty-eight 2*d.*, while the rest of the inhabitants were to be assessed. In the contribution for soldiers in 1577 the Companies paid £12 (in the usual way), while 'the best of the commons' gave in all only £2 odd. In the same year the Twenty-four gave £31 to the cost of the new market-cross, the Forty-eight £15. 5*s.* 6*d.*, apparently by voluntary subscription. In 1578-9 the system of a third from each Company and the residue from the commons was used to increase the town-stock; for a 'leyre' to raise post-horses, train soldiers, and repair bridges; also for a collection to help to pay for the charges of Hastings Haven, assessed at 8*s.* on each of the three contributory groups. Similarly when Nantwich was destroyed by fire (p. 201) the commons were charged, but this time 'under the rate for post-horses,' and not explicitly for this extraneous and charitable purpose.

The Companies paid a fixed salary to the Mayor's serjeant by taxing themselves, and paid the waits similarly, though the commons were to be encouraged to give 'what they will' (p. 451). The strolling players were paid in the same way on many occasions; a fixed sum was granted from the Companies and a 'gathering' of a free-will kind was made from the commons who were present at the entertainment. The fee for the town-preacher, the charge of 40 soldiers in 1588 (in preparation for the Spanish invasion), for the expenses of watching plague-stricken houses, and for receiving the Earl of Leicester, were divided in the usual thirds. Most of the large loans were raised by the Companies, but the commons were required to contribute to the loan made to a clothier, who was engaged to teach the poor to make cloth (1584).

In 1590 a subsidy was raised, and 93 persons paid £20. 6*s.* 8*d.* (pp. 265-8). This list gives no just idea of the relative means of the inhabitants, being based no doubt on an antique assessment of the fixed subsidy. The equal contributions of the members of the two Companies did not tally with a corresponding equality of income, any more than the values of goods and lands assessed to the subsidy

<sup>1</sup> Turner, *Records of Oxford*, pp. 320-3.

in very round figures, corresponded with the true facts. If the list was really representative, and if 72 out of the 93 were of the Companies, only 21 persons were left in some cases to pay a third of the burden. At the end of the century there were attempts at a closer assessment. In 1599 the Companies were to be taxed, by certain persons named, for the payment of the town's debt, perhaps by some less rough and ready means than the usual equal contribution. In 1600 a reassessment for the subsidy was agreed to (p. 402) and a further levy was made to acquit the town debts. It was agreed that the Twenty-four pay 10s. each, the Forty-eight 5s., the commons their assessment, but any member of the Companies who preferred to lend 20s. in place of giving 5s. might do this, so high was the rate of interest for loans.

The question of assessment for the subsidy was beginning to cause trouble in 1600. 'Many speeches were made,' for that some desired the old method of fixed equal payment, and 'other some' would have it taxed by parishes, whereupon the Hall was divided, and the greater part were in favour of assessment by parishes, but nothing was settled (p. 413). A definite charge of unfairness was made by the Earl of Huntingdon (p. 423), who wrote in Dec. 1600 that 'many of the meanest sort of your town have been driven to lay down their portions equal with those of better wealth than themselves.' He required the service of a soldier, and named the six persons who were to pay the cost. The Mayor and Twenty-four replied that they objected to this method as not accurately discriminating, and that they could disprove the charge of unfairness. In January the Hall agreed to a fresh method of levying a rate for the payment of town debt, the Twenty-four to be divided into three groups of 8 each, at £3, £2. 6s. 8d., and £1. 13s. 4d. per group (in equal shares per head), and the Forty-eight into three groups of 16, at £1. 16s. 8d., £1, and 13s. 4d. per group (in equal shares per head); it was further agreed that all the best commoners, 'being free burgesses,' should be taxed according to their ability. But this assessment was not to establish a precedent (p. 425). The corporation, rightly or wrongly, took the Earl's complaint as aimed not at unfairness in the levy of the commons' share, but at unfairness in taxing the Twenty-four and Forty-eight as if each of the Twenty-four were twice as rich as each of the Forty-eight. As for the charge of the soldier, it was determined that notwithstanding the Earl's letter, half the cost should be borne by the town. In 1602 the old custom of assessing the Companies equally and charging the residue on the commons was restored, by a vote in the common Hall (p. 445). But the burden of paying interest

on a loan (p. 449) was taken up by the Companies and the aid of the commons was not invoked for that purpose.

The assessment of the commons was determined by the Mayor and Justices of the Peace, who were all Aldermen. The commons lay absolutely at the mercy of the Companies, by the nature of the constitution, but like other despots, the Companies showed on occasion what seemed like benevolence. The 72 members of the Hall shared too many of the common interests of the borough to be tempted to manipulate the system of borough rating to serve only the immediate financial interest of themselves as individuals. No concept of a tripartite borough unity, two Companies and one body of Commons, could be created to tally with this tripartite scheme of finance, so suggestive of sums in greatest common measure and so adaptable to algebraic formulae. The Twenty-four and Forty-eight were not directors of a company with shares in borough profits proportioned to their expenditure. When it was agreed in 1576 to have 24 leather buckets at the town hall, for use in case of fire, they were paid for 'two of the XXIV to a bucket, and four of the XLVIII to a bucket' (p. 163), yet the use of the buckets was not measured in these proportions. But the actual drawing of a line of fiscal division between the two Companies and the Commons went far to change the old feeling of the unity of the borough, and no philosophical idea of a whole in which all the individuals are but parts was ready to recreate it in another form. First the path of extreme individualism had to be trodden, and its course, an easy one, leading to destruction, lay along the borough lands. It was in the management of the large town lands, a management which could not easily be conducted by a very large assembly, that the temptations to self-service, to which the borough men of business were exposed, grew more considerable when the bonds of borough unity were loosened.

*The town lands.* The leasing and selling of town lands to members of the Companies had gone on for a long time (pp. 17, 38, 148), and may have been fully justifiable; but irregularities were creeping in, as appears in the bylaws, which forbade town lands to be let, sold or exchanged, except by persons duly authorized to act for the Companies (pp. 138, 148). The object of the commissioners who were authorized to convey town land was declared to be 'the most profit of the town' (p. 149), but as the extent of the borough property and the burden of the borough debt increased, those in power felt more and more the need to manipulate this delicate business so as to serve present requirements. Very soon after the purchase of the fee

farm in 1589 there were complaints made by some members of the Forty-eight (p. 257). The whole Company complained that the late Mayor had set the town-seal without the consent of a common Hall; the petitioners asked that the lands 'may remain to the use of the Mayor and burgesses' and that none be sold but by consent of a common Hall, also that a full survey of the lands be made. Next year Stanford, one of the ward aldermen, had joined the party of complainants (p. 285) and only ten signatures were appended to the statement that there was no ground for complaint (p. 287). Two commoners were summoned for slandering the Bench, and a royal commission of enquiry was appointed (p. 290) to discover whether any lands, which the Queen had given to support a preacher and clothier and to maintain the town, had been taken for private uses. The Twenty-four, as a counterstep, succeeded in passing a bylaw, ordering any person who disclosed the secrets of common Halls to be fined £5 (p. 291), and appear to have lost nothing by the commission of enquiry. Dethick's entry<sup>1</sup> concerning the next Hall, 'at this time nothing agreed upon worth recording,' shrouds perhaps a good deal that might throw light on the psychology of the Elizabethan council. Bylaws requiring due authorization for conveyances of borough lands continued to be passed (pp. 317, 348), silent reflections on past abuses.

*Borough loans.* The complicated character of the arrangements made to raise borough loans betrays the great scarcity of capital. Loans were generally sought upon the security of the town land (p. 207), interest being paid at the rate of about 11 %. This interest in some cases was raised by a levy on the Twenty-four and Forty-eight (p. 210), but bonds were issued also in the name of the Mayor and burgesses (p. 337); sometimes the security of town land was not deemed sufficient by London lenders, who preferred the security of private persons. To obtain personal surety the Companies pledged the town-hall to the two burgesses who were willing to act as sureties (pp. 209, 210). When the purchase of the Grange lease and the fee farm rents had to be carried through, for the first time the council had to negotiate the raising of very large loans, and the lands which were the subject of the purchase were heavily mortgaged.

The borough rental which had been under £20 reached in 1595 a total of £166 (details are on pp. 304-315), and the borough accounts, upon which the whole rental was penned, were nearly doubled in bulk. At the beginning of the period the total of receipt had been

<sup>1</sup> Dethick himself had received a share of borough land in return for his labours (Throsby, p. 102) and there is no mention of this in the minutes.

about £30, of expense about £20; both sides of the account grew in size till in 1580-1 receipts were £197, expenses £135. After the purchase of the charter the balance was not always favourable to the borough, and the last account closes with a deficit, receipts in 1601-2 being £353, expenses £381. It had been a year of litigation and the council had had trouble with its creditors. The tendency to place the raising of loans with the commissioners who were responsible for letting and selling borough land was beginning (p. 389), and was not likely to have good consequences.

That there was a party on the council opposed to the policy of enclosures is shown by the fact that the reason urged against the Earl's nominee for membership of Parliament was that he was an 'encloser and not likely to redress that wrong in others.'

*Pastures.* The insufficiency of the pastures round Leicester for the needs of the burgess commoners was a matter often discussed by the Companies, and there was much litigation with those who encroached upon the pasture land. Beaumont Leys, 1068 acres of pasture, had been opened by Henry VIII to the commoners, in exchange for their Frith rights<sup>1</sup>, subject to a payment of 2*d.* a week on each horse, and 1*d.* on each cow. But subsequent owners of the Leys raised opposition. In 1551-2 the borough suit against John Corbet (p. 79) was so far successful that Corbet agreed to admit milch kine belonging to the 'poor' from May 1 to August 1 at 1½*d.* a week, and those of the 'rich' at 2*d.*, the labouring horses of the poor at 3*d.* a week, and of the rich at 4*d.* Probably in the other months the old arrangement held. In 1561 the Leys<sup>2</sup> were declared open all the year to inhabitants of Leicester on the old terms.

In 1552 (p. 456) a temporary agreement was come to with John Blackwell, farmer of the Bishop's Fee, that the 'Leicester meadows' (*i.e.* Abbey Meadow<sup>3</sup>) when they lie open (Aug. 1—May 1) should admit hackneys for 4*d.* each a year, provided they were branded as belonging to commoners, and that not more than 40 should enter: if however the Mayor and inhabitants could prove their claim to further right, then the arbitration ceased to hold. St Leonard's parishioners alone were given a fuller right, for their cows might enter on payment of 2*d.*, 2 from each house; occupiers or dwellers, using hackney horses to go to market, paid for 1 horse 4*d.*

<sup>1</sup> Nichols, iv., App. p. 394.

<sup>2</sup> On p. 100 the pasture is not named, but Thompson, i. 244, II. 237, shows that it is the Beaumont Leys.

<sup>3</sup> So Thompson, i. 244.



The fencing and ditching of the Cowhay was in 1551 (p. 657) ordered to be done by those who had cattle pasturing there, each finding one man for one day's work or the price thereof. Payments for the upkeep of the Cowhay are frequent in the borough accounts. The stint was determined in 1553 (p. 70), 2 cows for each freeman, or 1 cow and 2 heifers; if a freeman had no cows of his own he might hire 2 milch cows. In 1601 the 'Cow Pasture' was let, 'for the bettering thereof and making the same sounder for cattle,' and the proceeds were diverted to a public purpose (p. 439).

In 1600 Manners' consent had to be sought to recover the aftermath of a certain close near the Mary Meadow, which before the recent enclosure had usually been eaten by the town cattle, 'as the other meadow grounds, parcel of the Grange, have been and are eaten.'

In 1584 there was complaint (p. 209) that the town pastures were in the hands of gentlemen who would not let them, so that the council could not get a horse's grass for a reasonable price, and yet were continually charged with the keep of post-horses.

*Post.* The first entry which shows that the borough maintained post-horses for the royal service comes from 1541-2 (p. 49). At first no regular arrangement seems to have been made for their maintenance (p. 57), but in 1551 the duty of finding four post-horses was farmed out (p. 66). In 1552-3 charges under this head appear in the Chamberlains' accounts (p. 72). In 1569 (p. 126) a bylaw was passed that they should be farmed out and the charge borne by all the inhabitants, not only by the Companies. Next year the number of horses was raised from four to six (p. 30). The demands made on the town were great both in connexion with the Northern rebellion and the movements of Mary Queen of Scots (p. 211).

*Trade regulations.* The difficulty of securing a monopoly of the trade of the borough for those who had entered the freedom, that is, had become members of the Chapman's Gild, was a matter which took up constantly the attention of the council. In 1540 (pp. 43-4) a petition was sent in to the Chancellor of the Duchy, pointing out that the town was suffering through the admission of foreigners (persons who had not purchased the freedom) to a share in the retail trade of the borough. The petitioners acknowledged that foreigners had in the past been suffered to retail victuals in the town (probably at a time when the town was ill-supplied), and now sought letters patent to exclude them from all retail trade. No outcry was raised against 'foreigners' who sold goods in gross, for their importations were

seen to be necessary to the trade of the borough. It was the shopkeepers, licensed by their 'freedom' to retail trade, who objected to foreign competition in retail trade. The appeal to the Duchy was no doubt intended to protect the borough, itself part of the Duchy, from the Duchy tenants of the neighbourhood. It was they who could most easily set at nought the bylaws of the borough and win the support of the Duchy court. The town failed to obtain the desired letters patent, and had to be content with a bylaw which proposed to include victuals among the wares that might not be sold by foreigners except in gross and on market-day. The tendency to admit foreign retailing in victuals in times of scarcity was however too strong, and an exception in favour of victuals had to be made in 1574 (p. 154). As the price of admission to the borough freedom had risen to £5 (p. 156), the poorer classes of foreigners were effectually excluded from competing in licensed retail trade.

The town often had trouble with freemen, who having left Leicester for a time, came back again. There were several exoduses on account of the plague, and those who had gone unflinchingly through the trying season were not inclined to welcome the wanderers home. First it was ordered that those who had left for more than a year and had paid none of the burgess's charges must pay for readmission to the freedom (p. 177). Those who had once been burgesses and had left might sell only on Saturdays (in gross) like foreigners (p. 281). In 1593 (p. 293) all freemen who did not return nightly to Leicester had to pay weekly double in every payment made by resident burgesses to watch and ward, etc. If they did not return as inhabitants by a given time, they were to pay £2 a week to the use of the plague-stricken and poor people. Perhaps some had deserted with a view to escape the cost of the visitation as much as to avoid the risk of contagion.

In 1594 there began a long struggle for the exclusion of the glovers and fellmongers of certain neighbouring market-towns from retail trade in Leicester. There was an 'occupation of glovers' in Leicester (p. 79), and the objection to the 'foreign' glovers seems to have been because they came to buy fells rather than because they came to sell gloves. For some reason glovers seem to have found it easier than other traders to set at nought the bylaws of the borough. The justices of assize had given an order against them, but the influence of the Earl and Countess of Huntingdon, whose interest was strong in Ashby-de-la-Zouch and Loughborough, was against the borough, and on the side of their tenants. The men of Ashby, Loughborough,

and Mountsorrel seem to have claimed admission as being themselves residents in market-towns, towns which could meet by retaliation, more or less effectual, the exclusiveness of Leicester. The Leicester council, having re-enacted the old bylaws against foreign retailers (pp. 301-2), rejoiced in securing their bylaw as part of the royal charter of 1599 (p. 363).

Robert Herrick, of Mountsorrel, a glover, seems to have been determined to win admission for himself and his friends, and on payment of £50 he got ten glovers from the country to take up residence and enter the freedom; at the same time six glovers from Loughborough were allowed to attend the market (p. 368). The rest were to be excluded altogether (p. 377). But the borough was unable to hold the position. In 1600 it was agreed that market-town glovers should be admitted if they entered the fellowship of the Leicester glovers and made certain payments of 'brotherhood' money, and a general admission to the Saturday market was accorded to Mountsorrel men on certain payments (p. 410). But there were stringent rules against buying and selling covertly on behalf of others who had made no similar payments.

In spite of this arrangement the conflict dragged wearily on into the next reign. The Leicester authorities proposed to bring the matter before the Court of Star Chamber (p. 419). Several of the points at issue cannot be cleared up by means of the entries in the Hall Books, but it is evident that the Leicester council wished to make the glovers of the neighbouring towns submit to the rules which governed the Leicester glovers. A copy of these rules comes from a later date and shows that the glovers and fellmongers were subject to the same 'ordinal'.<sup>1</sup> A desire to keep plenty of leather in the town, to provide materials for the glovers' industry, prompted several of the council's regulations, and these offer a good example of the council's method in attempting the control of trade. A law of 1600 (p. 407) excluded all foreign retailers from traffic in the town, except foreign tanners and fellmongers under certain conditions. They were to pay a yearly fee, and each tanner was obliged to bring as much tanned leather to be sold at the leather hall as he bought of raw hides there. Each fellmonger was required to bring in as much wool to the wool-hall weekly as he bought of fells and 'slaughter-ware' in the Saturday market. All purchases must be made from freemen, not strangers, but it seems to have been no

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<sup>1</sup> The rules of 1606 are given in Thompson, I. 464. The union was not unusual, Unwin, *Industrial Organization in the 16th and 17th centuries*, p. 39.

longer required that all sales must be made to townsmen (cf. p. 393). The council had a boundless confidence in their power to control economic forces, a confidence which the strength of the borough executive can ill have justified.

In an interesting letter from James Whitelock (p. 440), afterwards judge, the question was discussed whether the corporation could prosecute foreigners trading in Leicester under the Act of 1 and 2 P. and M., c. 7, which forbade any country person to sell by retail any cloth, haberdashery, etc. in any borough, unless he was free of the borough. The Act however forbade only the retailing of goods made by others: the goods of a man's own making might be sold as freely as before the Act. The opinion that men who dwell in one market-town are free on that account to buy and sell in another, Whitelock declared to be wholly mistaken, but he would dissuade the council from any attempt to secure a cancel of the privileges of market-towns within eight miles of Leicester: either their rights are older than those of Leicester, or newer, in which case the law protects Leicester; if they are older, Leicester had better not annoy them.

The borough treasury received not only the fees for admission to the Chapman's Gild, but also annual payments from those who could not pay the large entrance fee for "up-setting" or setting up a shop or a craft (p. 67), and also an entrance fee from all who were made free of any craft. The 'ordinals' or trade regulations of all the crafts were subject to the consent of the Mayor and some of his brethren (p. 19), in some cases of the Mayor and justices of the peace only (p. 100). Certain fines for breaches of the ordinal were paid to the borough treasury by the wardens of the craft or 'occupation,' probably in the proportion of half to the craft and half to the borough. There were occupations, companies, or fellowships, of bakers, barbers, butchers, brewers, chandlers, coopers, cutlers, drapers, fullers, iron-mongers, shearmen (shearers of cloth), shoemakers, smiths, tailors, tanners, and weavers, but none of the ordinals is recorded in detail. Other towns supply the details of such craft regulations in abundance.

A few specimen trade bylaws, and episodes arising out of trade bylaws, may be cited as illustrative of municipal thought on the subject of economic legislation. It seems to have been found difficult to discover one guiding principle which should avoid both the Scylla of excessive and the Charybdis of insufficient supply. In one year the risks of 'foreign competition' had to be met, in the next foreign supplies might be found to run short. The makers of bylaws found it difficult to legislate so rapidly as to keep pace with the change of

seasons, and the currents in the tide of trade were not all visible to the eye of the legislator. His laws were naturally directed mainly to the redress of the obvious errors of the past; he did not aspire to direct the course of an unknown future. In that future his own laws might work for harm with as much force as the laws of others, drafted for the opposite purpose. But to return to particulars; we have spoken of the attempts (in good years) to exclude 'foreign victual.' There were decisions, in bad years, to admit it, subject to careful regulation. All country bakers were required, in 1520 (p. 15), if they brought bread, to make it of good materials and weigh it according to the assize. They might bring it only on market-days and sell on Wednesday and Friday at the High Cross. They might carry no foreign bread straight to the doors of customers, for that would infringe the retailing rights of freemen. In 1533 a seditious foreign baker (p. 34) said that, as many would want bread at Christmas, he and others intended to bring it, for if they did not there were a hundred people ready to fetch it; and he threatened that the foreign bakers would have staves in their baskets to defend themselves if need be. But 'never a townsman gave him encouragement to say so.'

The chandlers were forbidden (p. 88) to sell wholesale to either townsmen or foreigners. Candle was scarce and dear in winter, and it was thought that too much was sold out of the town to strangers. No butcher might sell tallow to any chandler who was a foreigner, or to any freeman if it were destined to go out of town, from Sept. 29—Feb. 2, unless the stranger or the freeman who bought the tallow would bind himself to bring in for every stone of tallow he took out, 12 lb. of candles by next market-day.

In 1578 there was a 'restraint for millers' (p. 174); no miller, native or foreign, might buy any malt or corn on market-day except for the provision of his own household. Evidently their large purchases were leaving the townsmen short of supplies.

A like attempt was made by law to provide townspeople with honey at the time when it would be scarce: everyone who made honey in summer was required to keep at least a barrel a year to sell in Lent in open market (p. 177).

The laws which were arranged to provide the town with a due supply of licensed and native music show a marked antipathy (in the minds of the legislators) to foreign minstrelsy, an antipathy not shared by all the Leicester commoners since legislation was necessary. No strangers who were not of the company of the town waits were to be

suffered to play in Leicester at or in any man's house, the time of the general assizes alone excepted, and then their foreign playing must be only before strangers. Every housekeeper was taxed to the support of the Leicester waits, and they were forbidden to leave the town to play unless they obtained the Mayor's licence; a licence might be granted only for foreign fairs and weddings.

Just as the prices of bread and beer and candle were fixed by assizes, held yearly, and settled by the then current values of corn, malt, and tallow, so the justices of the peace were required under the statute of 5 Eliz. 4, c. 12, to fix the rate of wages for servants, artificers and labourers 'according to the plenty or scarcity of the time.' That this duty was not neglected at Leicester is shown by the annual statement on the Chamberlains' account which notes the cost of sending up the report. The reports of the justices have not been preserved.

*Toll and stallage.* The corporation, so active in its legislation against foreigners when the protection of native retailing was concerned, was driven at the end of the century to approach the question of the town's monopoly from the opposite point of view. It was discovered in 1598 that there was a weak place in the town's constitution which rendered it possible that toll should be taken at the gates of Leicester, and stallage in the market of Leicester, tolls and stallages which, inasmuch as they were not to come to the borough treasury, could from no point of view seem to offer encouragement to borough trade. The borough had not succeeded in 1589 in securing the fee farm of all the Queen's rights over the market: the shambles, drapery and sheep-pens were granted, but there was no clause treating of the market stalls, such as had been asked for by the petitioners for the charter (p. 237). After the grant of the fee farm, it was brought to the notice of the Queen or the Duchy Court that there were 'concealed' toll and stallage dues, namely that the corporation was taking tolls and stallages without chartered grant (p. 444). The Queen farmed these concealed dues to a tenant, Randall Manning (p. 356), who in his turn assigned them to Okes and Rogers, who proceeded to an action in the Duchy Court against a burgess who had refused payment. The county justices, perhaps at the instigation of the corporation, addressed the Chancellor of the Duchy and the Earl of Huntingdon, dwelling on the importance of free trade for Leicester, the necessity 'to allure and bring the confining neighbours to resort, traffic and merchandize there' by making them free of toll for anything to be bought or sold there (pp. 355-6). The burgesses

had little to urge in evidence on their side beyond the charters of the Earls of Lancaster, which freed the tenants of the honour of Leicester<sup>1</sup>, and the Duchy charters which freed the Duchy tenants, from toll, stallage and such-like charges; these charters had been confirmed by a succession of sovereigns, and had been constantly used by Leicester burgesses in actions for the recovery of toll levied upon them outside the Duchy. But the question, whether a toll was leviabie within the Duchy and within the Honour, raised another issue, and the records of the borough and the Duchy had to be minutely searched before a true statement could be made (p. 444). That in 1361 the Duke of Lancaster did levy tolls on trade in the borough was made clear by the draft of the charter in which the Duke prepared to grant to the burgesses release from all manner of tolls, stallages, pickages, tronages and through toll (II. 118), a charter which he did not live to seal. A lease of the farm of the borough which covered this point was obtained from John of Gaunt, and leases were granted also by some of his successors, but when the term of lease ran out, the borough had nothing to show in support of its claim to freedom from the lord's toll.

As the story of the events of 1361 did not help the burgesses of 1600 to prove their case, discussion next arose on the question whether in the fifteenth century the Duchy claim to toll and stallage had been allowed to lapse. It was contended that only a rent for the stalls in the market-place had been taken (pp. 393-4 and so II. 272-7). In 1600 the borough sought to restrict the lease of toll and stallage to these rents which, it was admitted, had been paid to the Queen's bailiff even after the purchase of the fee farm in 1589. But the case was eventually decided against the borough<sup>2</sup>. It was still open for the lord of the Duchy to take toll, and such stallages as were not saved by the fact that the borough had the fee farm of shambles, drapery, and sheep-pens. Even in the drapery the borough had to consider the rights of the Duchy tenant until the lease fell in: no other stalls for drapers might be put up lest the lessor be injured (p. 426).

The grant of the fee farm of the Sheep-pens in 1589 put an end to further litigation on a point which had long been vexatious to the borough. In 1508 (II., preface, p. xxv. and p. 379) the borough having

<sup>1</sup> A charter of toll is first named in 1314 (II. pp. 281-2), but its terms are unknown. The charters of Edward III to the Earls of Lancaster, freeing their tenants from toll, stallage etc. throughout the realm are noticed in II. 74, 314, and Henry V's charter, the one oftenest confirmed by later sovereigns, is given in II. 228-9.

<sup>2</sup> See Thompson, II. 241.

provided the pens, claimed the profits of the sheep market and farmed out its rights. A rent was paid to the Chamberlains in Henry VIII's time (pp. 7, 27), but in 1545 the Crown leased the pens to the bailiff, Robert Catlin; the borough however still sought to control the pens of its own providing (p. 53), and a rent for these was repeatedly paid to the borough. After a suit (p. 116) the town secured a lease from the Duchy (p. 188) and finally the fee farm in 1589. A 'toll of horses' appears regularly on the borough accounts as an item of receipt, and this toll, perhaps 'concealed' from the knowledge of the Queen when she granted the charter of 1589, may have been one of the payments on which the farmer of the Duchy tolls was to lay claim.

*Markets.* The town was provided with week-day and Saturday shambles, where butchers had their stands on market-day (pp. 118-9, 452). There was a housewives' or women's market (pp. 240, 243, 426), with all its shops in 'foul decay,' 1588 (p. 240); here woollen and linen drapers were not allowed to stand, as their fees were due in the drapery.

The beast market was in Cow Lane, Cank Street and Loseby Lane, and cattle might not be brought in to the Saturday market. The Swine's Market was ordered to be held in Parchment Lane, a side street, instead of in the High Street leading to the East Gate. There was a corn-wall, where corn was sold.

There were three market-days (Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, p. 15), and the borough treasury paid for the cleaning of the market, and the care of its old elm-tree (p. 153); the council forbade the building of shops and lean-tos in the market-place (p. 212), and paid rent for those that were already erected there on 'the Queen's waste' (p. 393).

In 1577 the council agreed to erect a cross or market-house in High Street, and when it was built<sup>1</sup>, a law was passed to protect it from injury. It was forbidden to dust or winnow malt or corn in the cross, and to hang any clothes or aught else upon it (p. 199).

In 1592 the Mayor and corporation granted to Thomas Clark for life the house of St John's (formerly the hospital of the Knights of St John of Jerusalem) on condition that he built it and made it a wool-hall and so left it to the corporation on his death. It was probably on this same site that there stood a Bridewell or house of correction and a workhouse, where the poor were taught to make cloth.

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<sup>1</sup> There is a figure of it in Throsby, p. 62 (and see p. 92).



The charter of 1599 granted a market, where sales of wool, wool-thread and yarn might be carried on, provided no neighbouring market were injured, and provided the stallages and fees were given to the relief of the poor and sick. It was to the wool-hall, where this market was held, that foreign fellmongers had to bring their wool when they came to buy fells (p. 407). To develop the wool market the council made efforts to get the county magnates to send their wool there, and negotiated for the purchase of wool at a fixed price for seven years to come (pp. 415-6). But activity in municipal trading was not appreciated in all quarters and in 1602 the grant of the market was attacked in the Court of Exchequer (p. 445).

*Town halls.* On the dissolution of the Corpus Christi Gild, the Corpus Christi hall, which had already been used occasionally for meetings of the corporation (II. 350, 354, and below pp. 26, 49), was regularly used as the 'Mayor's hall,' instead of the old building in St Nicholas parish (p. 70). The old hall continues to appear on the accounts as needing constant repairs: it had been first built in 1274 (I. 383), and rebuilt in 1366-7 (II. 142): when the Corpus Christi Guildhall became the town hall, the old hall was used as a prison and a storehouse. The original 'stock house' or store house (II. 350) near the High Cross was let (p. 141), for the borough stores of coal, and other materials, were sufficiently housed at the two Mayor's halls. The final purchase by the town of the Corpus Christi hall seems to have been effected in 1562-3 (pp. 107-8)<sup>1</sup>.

The '*Gainsborow Chamber*,' standing on the Saturday market, is first mentioned in 1533 (p. 34). The origin of the name is not known. It was on the south-east side of the market and had an underground dungeon, shops on the ground-floor, and an upper room where the justices met<sup>2</sup>. In time of plague, to avoid infection (p. 303), the justices of assize sat in All Saints' Church.

*Poor relief.* The Chamberlains' accounts show that in 1577-8 (p. 8) the town had licensed certain people to beg for alms: the licensed beggars were authorized to wear the town's badge, no doubt the cinquefoil, on their sleeves<sup>3</sup>. The effect of the statute of 27 H. VIII, c. 25, is first traceable in the notice (1552, p. 69) of the keeping of a poor man's box, to which all fines for infringements of certain bylaws were to be paid. In Feb. 1562 (p. 101) a bylaw was

<sup>1</sup> See North's *Chronicle*, p. 235.

<sup>2</sup> North, *Chron.*, p. 174. The letter written from the Gainsborough by Robert Broughton, given in Thompson, I. 250, has not been found among the records.

<sup>3</sup> On similar arrangements in other boroughs see Miss Leonard's *English Poor Relief*, p. 41.

passed that 'order be taken in every parish that two be chosen to make collection for the poor.' This was a year before the Act of 5 Eliz. c. 3 made such collection statutory. In 1568 (pp. 121-2) an act for the relief of the poor and impotent 'over and above the collection required by statute' was passed by the borough. This ordered each of the Twenty-four, at his wedding, to pay to the collector for the poor of his parish 2s. 8*d.*, each of the Forty-eight 1s. 4*d.*, each commoner 8*d.*, and each 'second commoner' 4*d.* To prevent superfluous feasts at the churchings of women, it was ordered that only one 'compotent mess' be provided for gossips and midwives, and that fees be paid for the poor of the parish on the same scale as above. The parson was to receive the fees and hand them over to the collectors for the poor 'by a bill indented.' The yearly accounts of the collectors of wedding and churching fees were to be laid before the Mayor in the presence of the Companies, and then three or four of the Twenty-four were entrusted with the distribution. Any surplus was to be placed in the treasury for the use of the poor. Further it was ordered that a licensed collector with a locked box should visit the inns and ask strangers for alms for 'universal relief,' and the box was to be cleared weekly by the Mayor and a receiver. The Mayor with the consent of three or four 'ancients' of the Twenty-four was to distribute the same.

The statute of 14 Eliz. c. 5 had for the first time placed the assessment of the contribution to poor relief in the control of the justices of the peace, but no parish was to be required to give more than 6*d.* a week. In 1577, probably in supplement of this, the Twenty-four agreed to pay 4*d.* and the Forty-eight 2*d.* apiece, but decided to allow no licensed beggars (p. 170). There are a few entries on the employment of 'poor men' for special purposes (pp. 146, 167) and a few entries of small costs incurred in clothes and necessities for poor people, for instance in dressing a child's scabbed head (p. 421) or in helping cripples on their way to the respective places which were chargeable (under the Act) for their relief. The strong measures taken by the council to exclude persons likely to become chargeable to the borough were complained of (p. 351). A bond of £200 was required of a man proposing to settle in Leicester as a guarantee that neither he nor his family would be burdensome to the town. About the same time the Mayor was writing that the heavy burden of poor relief made men refuse to enter 'our societies,' that is, refuse to reside and become burgesses of Leicester.

The council did not receive many charitable bequests during the Tudor period. One grant was made by Mrs Dorothy Darell of 2*s.* a year each to twenty persons selected by the Mayor and two chief burgesses (pp. 151–2). Mr Harry Smith of Christchurch, Oxford, gave £10, which was administered by the aldermen in their wards (p. 155). The Earl of Huntingdon contributed money on loan or by gift to a fund for the purchase of coal, to be sold at a fixed price of 6*d.* or 8*d.* a cwt. to poor people, the money to go to increase the stock (p. 283). The same plan was tried in other boroughs, for instance Oxford and St Alban's, at a somewhat later date.

Besides the two endowed hospitals or 'poor houses' (p. 155), namely the Old or Newark and the New or Wigston's Hospital, there was the spital on the site of St John's chapel at the lower end of Belgrave Gate, which must be distinguished from the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem in High Cross Street and Causeway Lane, later the wool-hall. The council began to be active in maintaining this 'spital' towards the close of the century<sup>1</sup>. Perhaps advantage had been taken of the Act of 39 Eliz. c. 5 'for erecting of hospitals, maisons de dieu, abiding places or houses of correction' which gave the founders of such places the control of their visitation and leave to fill the vacancies. James Whitelock, the eminent lawyer, was consulted by the borough, and wrote that the borough should get the control of presenting almspeople to the hospital, 'which can be done if you are careful to keep one of your people in the place of ministration' (p. 441); possibly however the spital under discussion may have been Wigston's Hospital, over which the borough had a right of appointment in certain contingencies. The appointment at the Trinity or Newark Hospital lay with the Earl of Huntingdon<sup>2</sup>. In 1587 the borough had planned to build a house for 'such as shall be visited to inhabit during the time of such visitation' (p. 238), and the St John's site was well-suited for the purpose as it was remote from the town. Presumably this was the 'spital' to which the county was repeatedly urged to contribute (pp. 372, 387, 397) on the ground that this had been done in the past (p. 372). The county had made voluntary contributions to Leicester during the worst seasons of visitation, and Leicester in its turn made contributions to some objects in which the contributors can have had less immediate

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<sup>1</sup> The accounts of St Martin's churchwardens refer to 'the spittle house folk who did not gather in the church of St Martin' 1592–3 (North, p. 135). Perhaps these were from the Old and the New Hospital.

<sup>2</sup> Throsby, p. 295.

concern, for instance to Hastings haven, Newport poor-box, the relief of Stratford-on-Avon, to the sufferers from fire at Nantwich, and to a poor-house at Waltham Cross.

There were many attempts to foster cloth-making, spinning, and jersey-knitting, in Leicester, by way of 'setting the poor on work,' a subject constantly in the thoughts of Tudor legislators. There was no thought of differentiating houses of correction, workhouses, poor-houses, hospitals, outdoor and indoor relief, and schemes for providing work and training for the young or the unskilled. The charter of 1599 which gave the profits of the Leicester wool market to the relief of the poor and sick was construed (p. 416) as an endowment of the workhouse or place where the poor were 'set on work.' The site of the workhouse adjoined the prison, and the workhouse was probably, like other borough workhouses of the period, a house of correction; the charitable conception was probably represented by the 'poor widows of St John's' (pp. 94, 146) named in 1559, and seemingly the successors to some part of the endowment of the hospital of the knights.

The 'clothing' scheme, as it was generally called, was to meet the needs of those who were able-bodied and would not work, or could not find work, and also to provide technical education for the young and increase the trade of the borough.

As early as 1536 (p. 37) a bylaw was made that the Mayor and Four-and-twenty should make every year three 'kerseys,' and the Forty-eight should each make two, 'as long as they find any profit or wanting therein.' The kersey was a coarse narrow cloth used for hose, and a single 'kersey' meant a piece of about eighteen yards long. The members of the Companies were of course not required to make the pieces of cloth with their own hands, but had to order them from the clothiers, who would thus be encouraged to develop their trade and to offer employment<sup>1</sup>. This interpretation is borne out by the law of 1552 (p. 69). In 1571 a clothier was appointed 'to set the poor on work,' who was paid by the Companies (p. 132) and given a loan to start his trade. This was three years before the statute of 18 Eliz. c. 3 ordered the provision of a stock for cloth-making in workhouses. The scene of the clothier's operations was in all likelihood St John's. In 1584 the council sought to extend the scheme so as to include the teaching of spinning, baize-making, fulling, and weaving (pp. 200, 204), and teachers were to be sent for from Berwick and elsewhere. The council's efforts to start cap-

<sup>1</sup> For similar schemes tried elsewhere see Leonard, *Poor Relief*, pp. 48-9.

making and knitting 'by which they intend to set on work and maintain the poor people and increase the number of the inhabitants' are referred to in the petitions for the charter of 1589 (pp. 233-4). In 1592, probably in connexion with Thomas Clark's scheme for rebuilding the wool-hall, John Clark was given a stock of money to employ, 'to the setting on work of many in the town about clothing, and relieving such of the poor as cannot work' (p. 278). The limitation of the clothing scheme to the object primarily of poor relief is shown by the addition of the coal money to the clothing stock (1592), the coals to be sold only to the working poor which do work for and under the clothier and the 'true poor indeed' (p. 283). This shows that not all the clothier's pupils were required to live in the workhouse, for those who lived there would not need private supplies of coal. The children were put separately under Mrs Clark, the clothier's wife, who taught them jersey-knitting with a capital of £20 lent by the council, on which the council paid interest (p. 327). The Clarks promised to employ 100 people (p. 346). The Leicester scheme attracted sympathy, for a Cornish parson gave a bequest in 1601 (p. 441) 'to set the poor on work.'

*The Free School.* Save for the mention of a Boys' Hall (I. 196) and a schoolmaster (II. 143) the medieval borough records<sup>1</sup> of Leicester are silent on the subject of education till the reign of Edward VI. In 1552 the Vicar of St Martin's and another were sent to London, to see if they could get the land that was given by the Bishop of Carlisle, to provide a free school in the parish of St Margaret; this land had been sold about 1540 by Mr John Beaumont, who was then Recorder. Beaumont, who had become Master of the Rolls in 1550, was in 1552 in disgrace for corrupt practices. The Bishop of Carlisle was no doubt John Penny, sometime abbot of Leicester, who was a great benefactor to the church of St Margaret, where his body was buried<sup>2</sup>.

Throsby gives reasons for supposing that a free school was maintained in part out of the lands granted to Wigston's Hospital (p. 367) but on this question the borough records throw no light. The free school (or grammar school, p. 233) is first named in these records in 1563-4, where the chamberlains record the expense incurred in fitting up St Peter's Church as a school-house (pp. 110, 112). In

<sup>1</sup> The original of the Carte MS. cited by Throsby (p. 366) in which Adam le Sage is spoken of as rector of the schools in Leicester, about 1250-6, is not among the corporation records.

<sup>2</sup> Throsby, p. 277.

1564-5 the Queen began an annual contribution to the maintenance of the school, namely, £10 paid by the Receiver of the Duchy. In 1565-6, and regularly thereafter, Sir Ralph Rowlat gave £3. 6s. 8d. accounted for, like the Queen's gift, by the chamberlains. The Earl of Huntingdon's gift of £10 is mentioned 1573-4, and the Stanford legacy of £10 was paid in 1596. The salaries of the usher and under-usher, who received together £12. 2s. 6d., appear regularly on the borough account.

In 1573 the Mayor and comburgesses bought from the Queen for £35 all the building materials in St Peter's Church as part of the possessions of the Duchy, and in return the Mayor and comburgesses covenanted to erect a substantial school-house, with windows and doors and covered with slate, and to maintain the same for ever. If the building materials more than sufficed for the school, the surplus was to be sold to provide a conduit of fresh water (pp. 139, 140). The school was built near the High Cross on the site of the Stocks House (p. 140), and in 1574 it was finished (p. 151).

In 1582 all children of strangers (unfranchised persons) who attended the school were ordered by law to pay a fee, which was to go to the stipend of the under-usher (p. 192). The removal of the head-master was a matter which rested with the council: it was agreed in 1594 that Thomas Jesson should be 'tried by some learned man for his sufficiency.' Certain entries in the chamberlains' accounts point to disturbances in the boys' school, perhaps periodic, and connected with old customary festival rites<sup>1</sup>; windows and boards were broken 'at the shutting of the master forth' (p. 205) and desks and forms were smashed on another occasion (pp. 166-7).

*Religious teaching.* In 1580 (p. 183) a bylaw ordered that every child over eight years be taught the Lord's Prayer, the Articles of Belief, and also to answer to certain points of the Catechism; idiots alone were excepted. The parents were to be fined for neglect, the Twenty-four at 1s. each, the Forty-eight at 6d. each, the commons at 3d. each, with the alternative of three days' imprisonment.

The parish of St Mary petitioned the Earl for a better stipend for their priest, which was £8 a year; the parish had not been able to secure a learned man for this sum and through want of instruction the younger sort had become very undutiful, lewd and disordered (p. 452).

*The Town preacher or lecturer.* References to the visits of a preacher, who was paid by the council for his preaching, begin in

<sup>1</sup> Cf. Chambers, *Mediæval Stage*, 1. 363.

the accounts of 1547-8 (p. 56). In the accounts of other boroughs there are entries of fees of a similar kind at a far earlier date<sup>1</sup>, but compulsory attendance at week-day lectures or sermons began in Elizabeth's reign. In 1562 (p. 101) one person from every house was ordered to attend at every sermon on Wednesday and Friday under a penalty of 4*d*. The preaching took place 7-8 a.m. (p. 118) at St Martin's (p. 162).

In 1575 the number from each household was raised to two, and the fine to 1*s*., which was to go to poor-relief. In 1580 the number was again reduced to one, and the fine on the commons to 1*d*., the Forty-eight were to be fined 2*d*. and the Twenty-four 4*d*. In 1587 the aldermen and constables in their several wards were ordered to force men and their wives to come, and there were similar bylaws in 1597 and 1600.

The preacher was appointed by the borough subject to the Earl's consent (p. 226). The salary varied in amount, and the method of raising it varied. Mr Johnson<sup>2</sup> received £24, the popular William Pelsant £40, and Sacheverel £20, which was raised at Sir F. Walsingham's request.

*Borough orphans.* It is first in the sixteenth century that the responsibility of the borough officers for the wardship of the orphans of burgesses is made clear. In other boroughs it can be proved that this responsibility was accepted at a far earlier date; it can be traced in England as far back as the twelfth century. At a time when boroughs were seeking to escape from seignorial interference, the wardship of orphans was made in some cases one of the articles treated in the borough charter, and many towns, either by charter or by prescription, succeeded in excluding the lord's right of wardship, offering in lieu thereof the control of municipal authority. The inheritance of the burgess orphan was to be protected by the borough court. No guardian could be appointed without the consent of the governing body of the borough, whether in council or in court, and to that body the guardian was obliged to render account at the orphan's majority, or whenever account should be demanded.

With wardship went apprenticeship, and the enrolment of bonds of apprenticeship before the town council has its origin perhaps in the borough control of wardship. At Leicester the first indication of the

<sup>1</sup> Davies, *York Records*, p. 65.

<sup>2</sup> Mr Day seems to have been the first regular preacher. He may be Thomas Day, at one time a canon of St Mary de Pratis and prebendary of St Stephen's, Westminster (p. 50), a benefactor to the borough.

existence of a borough responsibility for wardship happens to come from 1539, in the shape of an agreement between a master and his apprentice (p. 43). A master agreed to pay his servant a certain sum at the end of the term of apprenticeship, and also to hand over to him at the end of his term, his share of his father's inheritance or 'child's part.' The master, then, was guardian to the boy, and the enrolment on the borough record protected the boy as ward and as apprentice. The wardship was the master's premium. The use of the phrase 'child's part' proves, further, that in Leicester, as in other boroughs, the custom held that the children inherited the third part of their parent's chattels, to be divided equally among them. The charter of Simon de Montfort (1. 49), which made the eldest son his father's heir, affected only landed estate.

In 1561 there is enrolled (pp. 96-7) a full account from the executor of a burgess's will; the account was rendered to the council, to whose audit must be submitted the whole of the expenditure on the orphan children; each item of expense on the clothing and keep of the little boys and girls is set down. In 1563 a lengthy bylaw on the subject of 'orphans' goods' was drafted, no doubt to clear up moot points, rather than to introduce a wholly new system, and in 1572 the law was again amended. The laws applied only to the children of 'townsmen,' that is of burgesses. The next of kin, if franchised, had the first refusal of the wardship, and failing all the kin, the wardship came to any franchised man who, being selected by the council, was willing to accept the charge. Rules were drawn up as to the amount that should be spent on the maintenance of wards, according to their station in life. In spite of rules, however, the payment of the 'child's part' was often a subject of correspondence between the orphan and the Mayor, and a cause of threatened litigation: an acknowledgment of his duty in the protection of orphans' goods formed a not unnecessary part of the Mayor's oath.

The fate of the Recorder, who found that the wardship of his eldest son was 'already begged if I die' (p. 278), might remind burgesses that their privilege was still well worth having, though the wards may not always have found much tenderness at the hands of their corporate nursing mother.

*Mills; Ovens.* If the control of the wardship of the orphans of burgesses may be regarded as an instance of the early displacement of the medieval seignorial power, on the other hand traces are not wanting of the continuance of that power in Leicester in some antiquated forms. The borough had not succeeded for instance in evading or buying



the lord's milling and oven rights. In 1554 (p. 81) an injunction was obtained by certain persons, perhaps farmers of the Newark mills, requiring (it would seem) that Leicester burgesses should grind at their mills. The borough authorities fined these persons under an old act, probably as burgesses suing, without licence of the borough, in a foreign court. The borough could further plead, what would have more influence in affecting the decision of the Duchy court, that the Castle Mills<sup>1</sup> would suffer in consequence of this injunction, and that these last were of more value to the Crown. The farmers decided not to use their injunction and were excused the borough fine.

In 1570 the council hired a man 'to search the waters for setting up a mill' (p. 133), and later, in securing the Grange lease, got with it the Newark Mills (p. 219). Dr Chippingdale, the Bishop of Lincoln's commissary, having succeeded in getting the farm of the Castle Mills, was next, in 1593 (p. 326), in conflict with the town on the subject of his multure. The Earl of Huntingdon's aid was invoked to make him submit to arbitration, and as Dr Chippingdale was shortly to be at the mercy of the corporation when his lease ran out, he probably preferred not to press the point. He wrote that if his son might have a renewal of the lease 'he and I will be as of your company, and serve the public weal as willingly as if sworn of the corporation' (p. 447). The town was at the same time active in redeeming the North Mills, borrowing £100 for this purpose; the Twenty-four and Forty-eight paid the interest, and the windmill in the South Field was also bought for the town (p. 298). In the next reign the North Mills were inhibited and the unsettled question of multure was reopened<sup>2</sup>.

On the question of the Duchy ovens the corporation took another line; the bakers who baked at the Duchy ovens attacked those who used private bakeries so as to injure the trade of the craft of bakers, and the council supported the professional bakers. The old law which compelled the burgesses to bake in their lord's oven was appealed to in 1599 (p. 354) by certain bakers who brought the test case before the Duchy court. No claim was made that persons baking for their private consumption must bake at the public oven, and the question was whether a 'common victualler' might bake in his own house pies, pasties, and spiced bread which were not consumed by his guests but sold to other persons. The matter

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<sup>1</sup> A map in Hall Papers I. No. 1 (see p. xvi), shows the relation of the Newark and Castle Mills, and also the position of the other mills in the borough area.

<sup>2</sup> See Thompson, I. 337.

was at first settled on the understanding that the defendant might bake spiced bread and cake at home, in such quantity as the Mayor and Twenty-four should license, but he might bake no ordinary bread at home (for sale); eventually however it was decided to bring 'spiced bread' under the assize of bread, and to require baking in the common oven if it were baked for sale.

*Weights and Measures.* The records contain a full account of the methods by which the central government sought to control local weights and measures. The Act of 2 Henry VII, c. 4 had arranged the distribution in every borough of common balances, with common weights, and of measures, marked at the Exchequer, which were to be used as standards<sup>1</sup>. Nevertheless in 1511 the list of the borough weights and measures which were kept at the hall shows that the town was ill supplied with standards. There was only one broken (brass) measuring rod, a brass gallon, a 'quarter' (28 lbs.<sup>2</sup>), two 7 lb. weights and three smaller weights. In 1521 it was agreed to fetch from London the standards which were missing (p. 17), and another list (p. 67) shows that in 1551 the borough had a better supply. In 1577 the borough was amerced for using a false strike (p. 173), and, soon after, the Queen's clerk of the market complained of the 'insatiable greatness' of the local bushel. There were two bushel measures in the corporation's keeping, it would seem; one was of brass, of date 12 Henry VII, having the portcullis and greyhound, and correct. This was restamped with an E and crown in 1602. But the standard bushel used in the market-place was of wood (p. 209) and was too big by a pottle (2 quarts) (p. 170). Repeated visits from the clerk of the market and warnings from the Privy Council passed unheeded; the bushel in actual use was always too large (pp. 209, 404). Similarly the borough had a standard gallon measure of brass, which only needed restamping in 1602, but the gallon which was in actual use for the borough standard was too large. After the clerk of the market's visit the size of the gallon seems to have been reduced, but in 1582 it was increased to its old size by a bylaw (p. 191). In 1602 new royal standard quarts and pints of brass were provided, after repeated warnings from the Privy Council.

In 1578 the brass yard wand was found by the clerk of the market to be too long. It had been broken and pieced with tin at one end. Henceforth both ends of all yard wands were to be sealed. The wine quart was found too small (it had been fetched from London in

<sup>1</sup> Cf. Leadam, *Star Chamber*, Selden Soc. I. p. CL.

<sup>2</sup> Possibly a quarter measure (8 bushels).

1577-8) (p. 173), for it was smaller than the ale quart, a custom allowed to Londoners only, for which they paid 100 marks a year (p. 176).

By a proclamation of Elizabeth, 16 Dec. 1587, the borough was required to purchase at the Exchequer complete sets of troy and avoirdupois weights, great and small, and with carriage 'by land and water,' they cost the borough £10. 7s. 8d. (p. 245).

By paying a 10s. fee to the clerk of the market the corporation sometimes sought to escape his interference (p. 288). But the town council, so lax in assisting the Exchequer authorities in their efforts to secure equality of measures throughout the kingdom, was firm in administering its own bylaws, suppressing pint and peck 'ostrey' measures of straw (p. 61), examining and sealing (pp. 61-2), forbidding the use of 'black pots' and mugs (p. 194), and requiring the use of sealed pewter pots in ale-houses (pp. 181, 184).

*Sanitation.* The number of bylaws under this head is not large. In 1557 (p. 86) it was forbidden to cast into the Soar or its branch river any weeds or filth, or to wash entrails there, or near where any 'burne' was taken up, that is, where the brewers drew their water. There are numerous rules as to the laying of muck in appointed places (pp. 103, 133, 329), and part of the fine for disobedience went to the informant. Owners of uninhabited houses were reminded (p. 191) of their duty to see to the cleaning of the streets in front of their houses, and to the weekly carrying away of the filth, muck and garbage, under a penalty of 3s. 4d. In 1588, after the corporation had secured the Grange lease, it was agreed to have a scavenger for the town who should carry all manure to the Grange tenants. Every householder was required twice a week to lay the manure in the streets, and was forbidden to sell it or give it to strangers, or to lay it on his private 'back-sides' or lands.

The town wells were occasionally cleaned at the expense of the town by order of the council; those at St Martin's Church, the High Cross and St Margaret's Church gate are mentioned in 1559. In 1584 the common wells were ordered to be kept in repair by the inhabitants of the ward or quarter in which they lay, and the aldermen were required to appoint well-reeves. In 1578 the washing of clothes at the common wells had been prohibited, not for the first time (II. p. 291).

In 1564 (p. 110) the first bylaws were made to cope with an outbreak of the plague<sup>1</sup>. Two months were to elapse after a death

<sup>1</sup> The nature of these visitations is described and a history of the methods of prevention then in common use is given in C. Creighton, *History of Epidemics in Britain*.

before those in the house that was stricken might wander among the 'clear.' The penalty was a fine of £5 or loss of the freedom of the borough. In 1593 (p. 295) the 'visited' houses were kept at the expense of the town in food, drink, fire, candle, water, and soap, and watched over by 'keepers' (p. 112); furthermore 20 watchmen were put on duty in aid of the aldermen and constables. In appealing for aid to the county, the number of dead was put at 107.

*Pavements.* The householder's duty of repairing the pavement in front of his house was brought to his notice by bylaws when a visit from the Queen was anticipated, and in 1575 the aldermen of wards were called on to see the work done, as well as to enforce an order for the 'repairing, amending and beautifying of the fore part and fore front' of every house, in readiness for the royal visit. Municipal responsibility for the state of the pavements was accepted at that time only for the 'common grounds,' that is for the pavements which bordered corporation property. The Chamberlains were to repair these at the town's charge, but for the mending of the highways the inhabitants of each ward were called upon to find a labourer for one day, and the labourers were to be ordered by the Mayor and Chamberlains to gather stones, dig and carry sand, and repair 'any common ways that the chamber (or treasury) is charged with.'

*Bridges.* The town had a large number of bridges and the cost of repair fell sometimes on the members of the two Companies (p. 149). In 1589 it was petitioned that the charter should contain a clause granting the profits of the borough court to the repairs of ways and bridges. The repairs of ways and bridges are entered occasionally on the borough accounts. In 1574 surveyors were appointed to superintend the building of a new bridge (p. 150).

*Water-supply.* In 1558 there was a scheme for making a conduit (p. 92), and when the Queen made her grant of St Peter's Church in 1573 it was planned that the surplus proceeds, if there were any, should go to make a conduit (p. 139). In 1586-7 there is mention of the repair of the conduit-head in St Margaret's Fields (p. 241), but that the town water-supply was inadequate is shown by the fee paid for 'searching for water at the top of the hill towards Knighton' (p. 369).

*Licensing system.* Brewers and ale-house keepers were at the beginning of the period subject to the same kind of municipal regulation as the bakers and tallow-chandlers; the assize of beer fixed the price of beer according to the price of malt, as the price of wheat and tallow fixed the assizes of bread and candle. Bylaws were

issued on the subject of the quality of the beer provided, and bylaws were issued similarly on the quality of the bread, the interest of the poorer members of the community being urged as the cause of several regulations. The bakers were required to make one half the batch of bread of 'farthing bread,' and were required to bake rye-bread for the poor, mixed with bran in proportion according to the 'old law' (p. 16, see II. p. 288). Similarly the brewers were repeatedly enjoined to make 'good wholesome drink' for the poor people at  $\frac{1}{2}d.$  a gallon, for instance in 1520, and later at  $1d.$  a gallon, when it was called 'penny drink' (p. 327). When the use of hops began, a closer classification and specialization of the brewing industry followed. The beer was stronger, drunkenness commoner, and a sense of the necessity of controlling this trade grew in the minds of national and local legislators. In 1523 the Leicester brewers had been forbidden to follow the new-fangled practice of using hops; three years before, they had been bidden to make their ale 'mighty of the corn,' with an insinuation probably against hops<sup>1</sup>. In the reign of Henry VIII the 'common brewers' are referred to with the feminine pronoun (p. 33), but when a 'brewers' fellowship' or gild had come into existence (p. 153) and the processes of brewing had been elaborated, it is probable that the trade passed completely out of the hands of women and became more definitely a profession.

The ales were classified under the assize according as they were new (ale under the sieve) or stale; to prevent the making of excessively strong ale, a top price was fixed for the stale, 'how strong or heady of the malt so ever the same may be' (p. 330). The brewers were ordered to repress strong ale (in 1584, p. 199), by means of their ordinal or code of trade rules, and complaint was made of the 'filthy drunkenness and great disorder by reason of the strong drink' made in Leicester (p. 208). It had early been ordered that retailers must give bread gratis when selling strong ale (p. 33). In 1574 the licensing of new breweries was left with the Mayor and 'ancientest of the comburgesses' (p. 153); but there was a tendency to allow wholesale traders to set up without license. This was taken advantage of, till in 1599 (p. 383) all new breweries set up within a given period were ordered to be suppressed; henceforth no one was to be allowed to set up as a common brewer except by license of the Mayor and aldermen or a majority of them.

No brewer might sell by retail: and retailers were in their turn

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<sup>1</sup> On the attempts to repress the use of hops as a foreign (Dutch) practice see Bickerdyke, *Curiosities of Beer*, p. 70.

forbidden to brew any ale for sale (p. 153). This facilitated the operations of the ale-tasters, who made their inspection at the breweries.

The retail traders, 'tipplers,' or ale-house keepers, had been brought under a system of inspection by means of the statutes against gambling. In each ward it was the duty of the alderman to inspect the ale-houses (p. 242), and occasionally the council appointed other inspectors with power to enter at any time (p. 293). The necessity of suppressing a number of ale-houses throughout the country had been acknowledged by the Privy Council and by Parliament; in 1571 the Council of the North was ordered to put down 'superfluous' ale-houses, and again in 1587 the Queen's Council ordered suppression<sup>1</sup>. There was no offer of compensation. At Leicester the Mayor's oath in 1594 (p. 302) contained a clause binding him to the suppression of ale-houses, and in 1597 the Justices of Assize, at the instance of the Queen and Lord Chancellor, addressed the Mayor of Leicester and required a list of ale-houses, with a view to the suppression of such as were unnecessary and ill-ordered (pp. 330-1). In 1586 the number of innkeepers and taverners in Leicester was returned as 73 (p. 231).

The closing hour in the winter months (Sep. 29—March 25) was fixed, as in London and elsewhere, at 9 o'clock, when the curfew tolled. Keepers of ale-houses where any customers were found after the bell had ceased were to have fourteen days' imprisonment and be fined as well (p. 74). Strangers in inns alone were exempted from this rule. This act was reissued in 1583 (p. 193) in a slightly modified form.

In 1562 (p. 174) victuallers who kept open doors in service time on Sundays or on feast days were fined, 'common innkeepers only except'; and in 1578 the order for the closing of all ale-houses was extended to Wednesday, Friday, Sunday, and feast days, 'in time of sermons, divine service, catechising, and such godly exercises,' viz. 8-11 a.m., and on Sundays and holidays also in the afternoon, during 'godly exercise.' The keeper of the house and the persons there found were alike punishable by fine or imprisonment: in 1580 the amount of the fine was left to the discretion of the Mayor, with the option of imprisonment. 'Strangers in their travel and for their lawful recreation' might be served at all times. Retail traders were for-

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<sup>1</sup> Cf. *Economic Journal*, 1903. Miss Iles' paper on early licensing laws in Notes and Memoranda.

bidden to refuse to serve buyers who wished to consume the beer off the premises (pp. 162, 170).

It was further attempted to control the amount of time an individual might spend without interruption at a single ale-house. In 1563 (p. 108) a bylaw called attention to the 'unthrifty persons who sit and tipple, at such time as they ought by God's law and the laws of the realm to be otherwise occupied, whilst their wives and families starve at home.' Town-dwellers who were householders were forbidden to 'use any such drinking,' the householder and innkeeper being alike punishable. 'If any will drink ale or beer, let them send for it home to their own houses and there drink in due order and at convenient time, one neighbour with another' (p. 109). The Leicester law of 1563 forbade drinking in any company for longer than one hour (p. 108), and this was re-enacted (p. 174), but later on the law was that townsmen might not sit drinking together at inns, though they might do so with strangers (p. 353). A statute of 1 James, c. 9, followed the example of this local legislation, making it unlawful to sit in an inn for more than an hour at dinner-time on workdays, and a proclamation of 1618 ordered the justices of the peace to deal with 'continued drinking' on similar lines<sup>1</sup>. In 1563 the Leicester council made a 'black-list' of common drunkards (p. 108), and ordered the frankpledge juries in 1569 to 'present' these offenders (p. 128). During the fair-times the whole system of licensing laws, early closing, and the rest, was allowed to lapse.

*Sunday observance.* As early as 1467 (II. p. 295) men had been forbidden to carry water for brewing purposes on Sundays: in 1523 (p. 25) the law was re-enacted, but an exception was made in favour of 'reasonable cause.' The penalty was imprisonment. In 1562 (p. 102) butchers were forbidden to sell meat on Sunday after 7 a.m. until divine service was over, and millers and corn-carriers were forbidden to carry malt or meal on Sunday till after evening prayer was over 'in all or most' parish churches.

*Amusements.* The excellent collection of extracts from the Leicester records which Kelly gave in his *Notices* of Leicester renders superfluous here any summary of the entries in the following pages. He has called attention to 'the play that was in the church' (p. 70), to the 'one that played alone' (p. 102), the Coventry and Hull players, the players out of Wales, the dancing-house (p. 57), the players on ropes at the Cross Keys Inn (p. 264), the dispute between the players of the Master of the Revels and the players of the Earl of

<sup>1</sup> See S. and B. Webb, *Liquor Licensing in England*, p. 11.

Worcester, to the bylaws against gifts to great persons and their players, jesters, bearwards and other entertainers (except in such cases as the town council sanctioned). He has named the greater number of the companies of actors who are referred to in the town accounts because the council gave fees in addition to what was 'gathered' either at the doors or as a free-will offering<sup>1</sup>. He has treated of the hopes and fears of the Puritans in the borough on the matter of the suppression of morrice-dancing (pp. 358-9), of the allusions to the then particularly aristocratic sport of cock-fighting, to the harefinder<sup>2</sup> of Whetstone court who was feed by the chamberlains, to Lockwood the royal jester, who adapted himself in turn to the requirements of Edward VI, Mary, and Elizabeth, and last appears in these accounts 1571-2 (p. 137). He has treated fully of the Riding of the George, the dressing of the dragon, the gild of St George and its hall in Holy Rood Lane or St Martin's Church gate (Town-hall Lane) which appears in the account of the corporation lands in 1595.

There may perhaps be an allusion to an old custom of celebrating the coming of spring in the note (p. 29), that hawthorn, beanflowers and a columbine flower were brought to the Mayor (Mar. 27, 1530), in an unusually early season. The bylaw on bough-breaking (pp. 68, 75) was perhaps directed to the repression of May-day decorations<sup>3</sup>.

*Politics and sedition.* Public interest in foreign politics is indicated by the fact that in 1525 the capture of Francis I at the battle of Pavia was celebrated by a bonfire and a 'triumph' at Leicester. The Armada, however, came and went without leaving much mark upon the town accounts beyond the cost of the levy of forty soldiers, and perhaps some feasting. In 1596 the town was still trying to recover £20 which had been sent up for the use of the soldiers and on their return should have been restored to the town (pp. 321, 324) by Sir George Villiers.

There was some seditious talk about the King and Anne Boleyn (p. 31) by one who was dissatisfied with both the central and the local authorities; and there were people who ventured to gossip about Merlin's prophecies, in spite of the statute against prophecies (5 Eliz. c. 15). Kelly has given a full account of the examination of the accused persons<sup>4</sup>, and Thompson has quoted the examination of

<sup>1</sup> See Chambers, *Medieval Stage*, II. p. 89, note on the borough payments to players.

<sup>2</sup> Reference may also be made to C. J. Billson's paper on the Easter Hare, *Folk Lore*, III. 441.

<sup>3</sup> Thus at Kilkenny (Rothe's Register) in 1534, the bringing to town of green bushes 'in any way of sport or maying' was forbidden.

<sup>4</sup> *Notices*, pp. 112-8, 216-22.



one who spoke in praise of Anthony Babington, Mary Queen of Scots' supporter. Thompson too has reported the case of the carrier who carried books against the Act of Uniformity, 'tending to the alteration of the discipline of the Church,' books which went too far in reformation on the one hand, and on the other, the case of the aged and poor Walter Barlow, a vagrant papist and priest, who continued in prison though he took the oath of allegiance. William Poole, who had committed the error of not praying for the Queen, was discharged (p. 196). In 1599 a gentleman was accused of speaking ill of the Queen's ministers, saying 'the Cecils would have all' (p. 366). There were also times when men ventured to complain of the acts of the Mayor and his brethren, though such complaints were punishable by the persons complained of, or by such of them as were justices of the peace.

*Morals.* In the annual accounts there are in almost every year entries on the 'carting' and whipping of offenders, male and female. The 'papers' or frontlets which were worn by the offender, describing the nature of the offence, were charged on the borough account. The examinations before the justices give the bastardy cases and cases of adultery etc. (cf. p. 344) but they are not numerous. In 1600 the justices' sentence on a woman was that she be carted about the town in a white sheet on Saturday, openly in the open market, and that she stand up before the Gainsborow Chamber in a white sheet for an hour, 11-12 a.m. (the most crowded time); further that on the 'Sabbath day being Sunday' she should present herself in St Martin's Church in the beginning of the sermon, stand up in a white sheet, bare-headed and bare-footed, with a white wand in her hand, acknowledge her fault, and ask God's forgiveness and the people's prayers. One case of witchcraft is recorded (p. 335), but not much detail is given beyond the fact that the supposed witch was hanged.

*The Council and the Parishes.* The control of the council over parochial matters, a control which in many boroughs can be shown to be of long standing, appears in certain passages in these records. The parochial affairs of St Martin's in particular were specially subject to the council's control, for it was at St Martin's that the council attended divine service. The Mayor's chapel is alluded to below, and the chapel of the brethren appears in St Martin's accounts<sup>1</sup>. In 1510 (p. 2) it was made a bylaw by the council that every Mayor must 'take account' for the Church of St Martin's during his

<sup>1</sup> North, *Chronicle of St Martin's*, p. 162. A 'Mayor's pew' is referred to in the accounts of 1489. North, *Accounts of St Martin's*, p. 2.

year of office, and the churchwardens' accounts, published by North, show that the Mayor was aided by the comburgesses, or some of them, in his audit, the vicar and ordinary parishioners being also present. The two Companies aided the 'commoners' of the parish by contributing to the cost of the church<sup>1</sup>, and the Mayor and his brethren made bylaws on the subject of the fees to be paid by members of the Companies and commoners for bell-ringing, for refusing the office of churchwarden and the like; these laws are all recorded not in the borough records, but in the book of the churchwardens.

Mention has already been made of the question of the union of St Peter's parish with All Saints' or St Martin's, which came before the town council in 1591 (p. 271). An instrument, seen in the parish chest of All Saints' by Throsby<sup>2</sup>, shows that it was the 'Mayor and burgesses' (no doubt the Mayor and two Companies) who at an earlier date had granted to the vicar of All Saints' letters patent which allowed him to hold that living and St Peter's living jointly for life. The Bishop of Lincoln, the diocesan, consented to a union of the parishes in 1590, and next the question of permanent union came before the council of the borough in 1591. Though there was believed to be a majority for union with All Saints', the matter, so far as the borough records tell the council's story, was not then finally decided. The Queen's consent to union was given in 1594.

*Population.* As in many other boroughs, the decay of the town, its poverty, its reduced population, its ruinous tenements, were matters lamented repeatedly by those who described the state of Leicester in the sixteenth century. In 1540 it was stated that for forty years past the high street had been going to ruin, and that other parts of the town lay desolate. In 1587 there was a minute enquiry into the number of houses, owing rent to the Duchy, and in need of repairs (p. 239). A jury of masons, plasterers and others reported 235 houses 'in decay' and 406 'bays<sup>3</sup>' 'wasted'; the total cost of repairs was put at £5000 and more. If the jury swore truly, the state of the town was so lamentable that the occasional visits of the 'saltpetre man,' much dreaded by the town council, can have added but little to the sum total of discomfort. The saltpetre man had power to throw down the mud walls in common seisin (pp. 221, 254, 264), to take up the town-hall floors, and make salt-

<sup>1</sup> North, *Accounts*, p. 118.

<sup>2</sup> Throsby, *Leicester*, pp. 235-6.

<sup>3</sup> The bay was the open space lying under a gable, between two party-walls, generally of 15 or 20 feet in breadth.

petre out of this earth impregnated with animal matter. The gunpowder industry was not started in England under conditions favourable to its general popularity.

The population was called 4000 (p. 234) in about 1589<sup>1</sup>: 600 men presented themselves at the general muster of 1580. A dole in 1584 was administered to 818 poor persons. In 1593 the number of poor persons *not* visited by the plague was put at five or six hundred. Those who complained of decreased population believed it was due to the fact that foreigners enjoyed too large a share of Leicester's privileges, while the burden of taxation fell with disproportionate weight on the resident townsmen.

*The Records.* There are many entries on these pages which show that much care was taken in preserving the records, and that on several occasions they were searched for legal purposes. Historical researches in connexion with borough law-suits were sometimes pursued at the Tower of London, then the national Record Office, and the copies made of MSS. in London have been carefully kept at Leicester ever since. The good order in which the manuscripts were kept was due to the energy and orderly habit of William Dethick, town clerk to the borough during a period of nearly half a century. The minutes of the council meetings in Elizabeth's reign regularly bear his signature. His relationship to the famous Garter King-at-arms of the same name has not been ascertained.

The chief sources of the present volume are the *Hall Books* I, 1467—1553, II, 1553—1586, III, 1586—1707, which contain the council minutes and the lists of officers annually elected. Some entries of annual occurrence, such as the assizes of bread, beer, and candle, the appointment of constables, or of keepers of post-horses, and formal documents concerning the subsidy, have been omitted after a specimen has been given. The recognizances of debt, and bonds of good behaviour, which are found in Hall Book I, have been wholly omitted. The lists of entries of the Chapman's Gild have not found space in the present volume.

*The Town Book of Acts*, still in its original binding, contains copies of the more important documents in the Hall Books, carried down to 1573. It is sometimes referred to as the 'great paper book' or 'register' (pp. 67, 147).

A quantity of loose papers have been bound together in volumes called the *Hall Papers*. Volumes I, 1583—90; II, 1591—1600; III, 1600—5 have been used. These papers formed originally what was

<sup>1</sup> In 1377 the population paying poll tax was put at 2101. (II. p. xxix. note.)

called the 'Mayor's file,' to which allusions are often made below. Some of the papers are holograph letters, others are copies of letters despatched from Leicester, some are corrected drafts of letters and petitions, some are the rough minutes of the council, prepared no doubt at the meetings, and afterwards written out in the Hall Book. A mass of the Hall Papers contains the examinations taken before the justices of the peace; of these it has been possible to include only the more important specimens and extracts. They are too irregularly kept to lend themselves well to a calendar.

The *Chamberlains' Accounts* are complete from 1555-6; after 1589 the accounts were kept in paper books as well as on parchment rolls; the books contain the rough copies, the parchment rolls the fair. The mass of these records is so great that it has not been possible to do more than give the sum of receipt and expense in each year, with extracts of the more interesting particulars; the earlier accounts have been given with some fulness, and the later accounts contain in each year entries of a similar kind. Each account contains an inventory of the plate and goods kept at the town hall, a detailed rental, a building account, and list of fees and courtesies. No system of extracts can satisfy all the needs of the curious enquirer who would seek particulars in this immense collection.

Some of the more valuable papers have been detached in recent times from the Mayor's file and are kept in a Portfolio, known as the *Portfolio of Letters*. Those of the letters which have not already been given in full by Thompson are printed in full here, and Thompson's letters have been calendared in our text.

The *Locked Book* contains copies of a mass of conveyances, so numerous that it has not been found possible, owing to exigencies of space, to calendar these as was done in the preceding volumes.

The *boxes* of detached records are also so numerous that no attempt has been made to calendar all. What seem the more important contents only are printed in full or calendared.

The *Easter Book and Terrier of St Mary's College* is described on pp. 453-4.

In conclusion I should like to make acknowledgement of the efficient help which I have had from Miss M. Hort (Mrs Chitty) and Miss M. H. Corbett in the work of copying. Mr W. H. Stevenson and Archdeacon Stocks have again been willing to revise the proofs, and I cannot adequately thank them for their generosity.

The present volume closes the first series of Leicester Records.

## RECORDS OF THE BOROUGH OF LEICESTER.

### I. *General pardon on Henry VIII's Accession*<sup>1</sup>.

Box C, No. 425. A copy in Box J, No. 426. [July 9, 1509.] Pardon to Miles Lambert Mayor of Leicester and the burgesses of the vill or borough of Leicester under whatever name they are known, for all offences whatsoever, murders, homicides, felonies, robberies, burglaries, abjurations, rapes and abductions of women etc. committed before Ap. 23, 1509<sup>2</sup>: also for the escapes of such offenders, and escapes of clerks attainted and convicted, and of all prisoners, and of all accessories to the same: pardon of all insurrections, rebellions, confederacies, concealments and improper words against the king's majesty and his predecessors and councillors etc.: also of all trespasses, embraceries and champerties etc.: also forgeries etc.; of unjust claims contrary to the franchises, all wrong forfeitures and deceitful returns etc. etc.

### II. *Royal Precept to the inhabitants of Leicester to accompany Lord Hastings to the war*<sup>3</sup>.

Box J, No. 473. [July 17, 1510<sup>4</sup>.] Henry Rex<sup>5</sup>: Trusty and welbiloued, we grete you well. And for as myche as we for diuerse consideracions vs moeving intende to haue almaner personnes reseant inhabiting and abiding, or hereafter to bee reseant, inhabiting and abiding within that our towne of Leicester and the liberties therof, hable to do vnto vs seruice of warre, whan the caas shall require, to bee at the leading and conducting of our right trusty and welbiloued Counsaillor, the Lord Hastings<sup>6</sup>, stieward of our said towne: We therfor woll and commaunde you and euery of you that ye in nowise suffre any of the said personnes to bee taken by any manner personne or personnes whatsoever they bee, ner reiteigned to any of them, but

<sup>1</sup> The general pardon was sent to all boroughs. Hertford has preserved a copy, *Hist. MSS. Com. 14th Report, App. VIII.* p. 158, and so has Godmanchester. Lincoln formerly had a copy, see Macray's report, *MSS. Com. ut cit.* p. 14.

<sup>2</sup> The day after Henry VIII's accession.

<sup>3</sup> The document is quoted in Throsby, p. 86.

<sup>4</sup> Henry was at East Hampstead on July 21, 1510. *Cal. D.S.P.* p. 1446.

<sup>5</sup> Henry VIII's autograph.

<sup>6</sup> George, third baron Hastings.

that they bee alwayes in arredynes and furthcommying to geue attendaunce vpon our said Counsaillor to do vnto vs seruice of warr whan we shall geue vnto hym commaundement in that behalf: Any our lettres, placardes, or other our lettres of commission or commaundement made or to bee made to the contrary herof notwithstanding: And that ye faile not thus to do as ye intende to please vs, and woll eschue the contrary. Yeuen vnder our signet at our Manor of Esthampsted the xviith day of July.

(Endorsed: "To our trusty and welbiloued The Maire of our Towne of Leicester and to all and singlier our officers within the same now being and that hereafter for the tyme shalbe.")

### III. *Borough Ordinances and an Arbitration.*

Hall Book I, p. 104. [Sep. 21, 1510.] Memorandum at the same comunem hall it is agreed by the same Mair and his brethern and the XLVIII in the name of the hole body of the town for all matters and demands bytween the town and Will. Boltt, that the seid Mair (Will. Wygeston jun.), Mr Gybson, Mr Gillott, Mr Reynold, Mr Wayze, Mr May and Mr Lamberd make a finall ende and that end to stond firme and stable bytween them.

[*Redemption of Chamberlainship.*] Also it is ennacted that from henseforth their shall no man redeme his chamberlenship under the some of *iiii*l*i*. and at<sup>1</sup> the Mair for the tyme beyng shall none take so onlesse then<sup>2</sup> it be in the comunem hall before the XXIII and the XLVIII.

[*Mayor's account for St Martin's.*] Also it is enacted that every yere the Mair for the tyme beyng shall take accompte for the Church of Seint Martayns within his tyme under payn of xls.

[*Brewers.*] Also that all bruers that brue to sell shall [brue] xii galons of their best ale for xii*d*. geffying godesgood<sup>3</sup> and grenes<sup>4</sup> as thei haue ben wontt before etc.

[*Serjeant's fee.*] <sup>5</sup>Item it is enacted that from hensforth the Maris sargeaunt shall haue of euery prisoner commytted to the hall for a frey *iiii*i*d*. and of euery prisoner so commytted for eny othur trespassse *i*i*d*. in name of a fee to mende his wages etc.

[*Cowhay.*] Also that no man shall put no moo<sup>6</sup> bestes in the kowhey above ii kye and a bullok.

<sup>1</sup> at = that.

<sup>2</sup> then repeated.

<sup>3</sup> God's good = yeast, harm, N.E.D.

<sup>4</sup> grains = refuse malt.

<sup>5</sup> Also in the Town Book of Acts, p. 33, as of date Nov. 23, 1510.

<sup>6</sup> moo = more.

IV. *Borough Plate, Books and Measures.*

Hall Book I, p. 217. [Sep. 1511.] <sup>1</sup>Memorandum that I William Wygeston the elder, Mair of Leycestre, haue reysevid of William Wygeston thonger<sup>2</sup>, last Mair, thes parcelles: Fyrst the Maris seall of office sylver, the comen seall copper and giltt in a pu[r]se, with iiij keys, a comyshon concernyng the takeyng of mustres.

A comyshen for the proclamacions and the proclamacions for vacabounds and vnlawfull games and othur mysrules in one boxe.

Also a box with ii grauntes concernyng the lybertyes of the town one of theym vnder the brode<sup>3</sup> seall and thothur vnder the saill of the dochie.

Item a gret boke lokett<sup>4</sup>, ii othur bokes<sup>5</sup> concernyng the ordnaunces of the town and siseyng of bred, ale and othur vetell.

Item a broken metwand<sup>6</sup>. Item a quartorn whyght<sup>7</sup> of brasse. Item ii half stones of bras of xiiii*li*. wyght. Item iii othur brason wyghtes eche of theym lese then othur. Item a galon of bras.

V. *Hire of soldier's horse and armour.*

Hall Book I, p. 217. [Ap. 30, 1512.] Memorandum that in the last day of Aprell the III<sup>te</sup> yere of the raynge of kyng Henry the VIII<sup>th</sup> wee Tho. Smyth, John Nicolson, John Fowler and Raf Burton haue hireed Tho. Baker to horse and harness<sup>8</sup> hymself to do the kyng and my lord Hastynges seruice when he shall be caled on, for the which thei haue paid in hande to the same Tho. xiiis. iiij*d*. And when he shalbe caled on to goo, he to haue xxs. more and if<sup>9</sup> case he goo not in maner and forme aforesaid, the said Tho. grauntith to delyuer or cause to be delyuered vnto the said Tho. Smyth, John, John, & Raf Burton ageyn their money or elles his harness.

VI. *The Subsidy.*

Hall Book I, p. 110. [Dec. 20, 1512.] List of "sessores pro xv pene," assessors of the fifteenth, chosen in a Common Hall.

<sup>1</sup> In Nichols IV. i. App. p. 388.

<sup>2</sup> thonger = the younger.

<sup>3</sup> brode = great.

<sup>4</sup> The Locked Book, which had but few entries in it so far.

<sup>5</sup> Probably the Vellum Book and the Hall Book containing the present record.

<sup>6</sup> metwand = measuring rod.

<sup>7</sup> whyght = weight.

<sup>8</sup> to harness = to equip.

<sup>9</sup> if = in.

VII. *Levy for the Town's Debts.*

Ibid. p. 116. [Aug. 13, 1515.] For a rerage<sup>1</sup> that the town is indetted to diuerse persones to the sume of xx*li.* or their abowte, it is graunted at the seid comunem haull by the concent of Tho. Burton then meir of Leycester and all his brethorn with the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> in the name of the hole body of the town that a subsidie of xxi*li.* shall be levid and gedered within the town to content the towns dettes.

(Two assessors(?) appointed in each of the 12 wards, and a collector with a constable as assistant collector in each.)

VIII. *Prowdlof's attack on the Bench.*

Hall Book I, p. 84. [Nov. 6, 1517.] Memorandum that in the Fest of Seint Leonard in the ix<sup>th</sup> yere of Kyng Henry the VIII<sup>th</sup>, Will. Prowdlof in the howse rebuked the meir and his brethern for the sessynge of the xv<sup>th</sup> penny in the tyme of meraltie of Thomas Smyth.

*Heyr won was ponesshed for speyteng y<sup>e</sup> Meyrs brether.* Sir Will. Lewcas prest, Christofer Grevys, Tho. Ley and Ric. Rutter sworn and examyned seyn vppon theyr othes that the seid Will. Prowdlof seid that he hadde as redy xx nobles<sup>2</sup> in his porse as eny knaf of the benche that satt upon the sesment of the xv<sup>th</sup> penny or of the best churles or herlottes<sup>3</sup> of them all.

Thomas Ley seithat<sup>4</sup> the seid Prowdlof seid that ther is neuer a knaff of the benche but he hadde as redy xx nobles in his pu[r]se as he.

Ric. Ruttere seith that he herde hym sey that he hadde as redy xx nobles as the prowdest churle of them that seste hym for the xv<sup>th</sup> penny.

Christofer Grevys affermeth the seynges of them all aforenamed.

<sup>5</sup>Wherapon and acordyng to reyson was the sayd Wyll. Prodluf comyttid to ward and ther puneshyd viii days and so after came in to the cort of Portmote and ther apon his knes askyt the meyr and his bredir oponly forgyfnes in the face of the cort and so was pardonyd.

IX. *Chamberlain's Account.*

A roll, unnumbered. [Sep. 29, 1517—Sep. 29, 1518.] *Leycestre.* Compotus Nicolai Heyn et Nicolai Wasse camerariorum ville Leycestrie tempore maioratus Thome Smyth (9—10 Henry VIII).

*Arreragia.* <sup>6</sup>*Rentes of assise & at will.* In primis of a tenement at the North Bryg late in the holdyng of John Byrde in rent of assise

<sup>1</sup> a rerage = arrears.

<sup>2</sup> 6*s.* 8*d.*

<sup>3</sup> herlottes = knaves, villains.

<sup>4</sup> seithat = sayeth that.

<sup>5</sup> In another hand.

<sup>6</sup> Cf. 11. 259. (Rental of 1452.)



iiis. iiiid. Item of a tenement there in the holdyng of John Segraue viiis. Item of Tho. Baker for a tenement their to hym letton by indenture with reparacions and to pey the chef rent iis. Item of a tenement their now in the holdyng of Nic. Katerns by indenture vis. viiid. Item of a tenement in the North gate in the holdyng of the neitherd vis. Item of a cotiar their in the holdyng of Malard iiis. vid. Item of a tenement their in the holdyng of Tho. Thomkynson letton by indenture iiis. Item for a tenement their in the holdyng of Hugh Tomkynson letton by indenture with reparacions xs. Item of a tenement their in the holdyng of Will. Norres in rents of assize iis. Item of Rob. Gaddysby for a pese of grounde their xxid. Item of a tenement theire in the holdyng of the swynherde viiis. Item of a garden in Senvygate late in the holdyng of Rob. Newarke by yere xiid. Item of a tenement in the Northyate now in the holdyng of Ric. Stasy in rents of assize iiis. Item of ii Chaumbers ouer the Northyate vs. Item of a tenement with a garden within the seid yate in the holding of Rog. Agard vis. Item of ii tenements in the Dede lane late in the holdyng of Will. Shawe iiis. Item of a stable their in the holdyng of John Westowes iiis. iiiid. Item of ii tenements at the high crose late in the holdyng of John Orgaynmaker xiiis. iiiid. Item of a tenement their called the bulhede in rent of assize xis. Item of John Collens vid. Item of a tenement of the hygh strete in the holdyng of Mr Reed in rent of assize viis. Item of a tenement within the Sowtheyate in the holdyng of John Heryng xs. Item of a tenement within the Westyate in the holdyng of John Lokyar viiis. Item of a chaumber ouer the West yate by yere iiis. id. Item for ii lees<sup>1</sup> in Milneston lane viid. Item for a tenement in the Swynesmarket somtyme in the holdyng of Rob. Knoles viiis. Item of a tenement their now in the holdyng of Randell Hyll xxvis. viiid. Item of a tenement within the Est yate now in the holdyng of John Marten in rent of assize for a wendow iiiid. Item of ii chaumbers ouer the Est yate in the holdyng of Rob. Boneuaunt iiis. Item of a tenement in Seint Nicolas parishe in the holdyng of John Pynder in rent of assize iiiid. Item of a croft in the parishe of Sent Margaret in the holdyng of the gilde of Corpus Christi in rent of assize xiid. Item of a croft their in the holdyng of Rob. Croft in rent of assize xiid. Item of a croft their somtyme in the holdyng of Will. Michell xviiiid. Item of a tenement in Belgravegate somtyme in the holdyng of Will. Milner viiis. Item of anothur tenement there somtyme in the holdyng of Will. Hamerton viiis. Item of a garden somtyme in the holdyng of Margaret Stener vid.

<sup>1</sup> "Lands" of arable laid down to grass.

Item for a peise of ground their in the holdyng of John Grysby *xxd.*  
 Item for a tenement in Paschon Lane<sup>1</sup> somtyme in the hold of Ric. Pynnder *vis.* Item for ii tenements their in the holdyng of Mr Gillott to hym letton by indenture with reparacions *viiiis.* Item for a garden next the Maryshale<sup>2</sup> in the holdyng of John Dalton *xviiiid.* Item of ii cotages in the Freer Lane in the holdyng of Raff Giles *vis.* Item for a waterlag<sup>3</sup> in the holdyng of Tho. Hall *xiiid.* Item for the erbage of the Buttes in the holdyng of Edward Alsoppe *xxd.* Item of the abbott of Leycestre for a tenement in the Northgate in the holdyng of Will. Plommer *xiiiid.* and a coke and ii hennes prise *vd.*

*Summa xili. vs. ix.*

*Rentes in Wheston.* In primis in chef rent of a meise<sup>4</sup> ii acre londe theire in the holdyng of the Lord Hasstynges *iiiiid.* quadr. Item of a toft and a half yarde londe<sup>5</sup> in the holdyng of Will. Bodycote by yere *vid.* Item of the same Will. for a meise and a yarde londe and a half by yere *id.* Item of a cotiar and a half acre londe in the holdyng of Will. Webster by yere *iid.* Item for a meise and ii yarde londe in the holdyng of John Stretton *iiiis.* Item for a meise with a yarde londe and a half in the holdyng of Rob. Bedford *xviis.* Item for an owen<sup>6</sup> and a half yarde londe in the holdyng of the seid Rob. by yere *vis. viiiid.* Item for a meise with a yardlond and a half in the holdyng of Will. Vincent by yere *xvs. ix.* Item for a toft in the holdyng of the same *xiiid.* Item for a half yarde londe in the holdyng of the same Will. by yere *vs.* Item for a meise and a yard londe in the holdyng of Tho. Townesende by yere *xis.* Item for a meise with xii rode londe<sup>7</sup> in the holdyng of John Gent *vs.* Item for a toft and a half yarde londe in the holdyng of Will. Bodycote *vis. viiiid.* Item for a cotage with iii rode londe in the holdyng of Tho. Rose by yere *iis. iiiid.* Item for the ferme<sup>8</sup> of a milne late in the holdyng of Rob. Power *iiiis.* Item for a meise vii rode and a half lond in the holdyng of Rob. Glover by yere *iiis. vid.* Item of a meise and xii rode londe in the holdyng of John Harberd *vs.*

*Summa iiiili. ix. ob.*

*Rentes in Ratlif, Thrussington & othur plases.* In primis for a tenement with certen londes meddowes and pastures in Ratlyf in the holdyng of Will. Burbage *xvs. viiiid.* Item of a meise with certen londes meddowes and pastures in Thrussington in the holdyng of

<sup>1</sup> Passion Lane.

<sup>2</sup> Mayor's hall.

<sup>3</sup> Wright, *Dial. Dict.* s. v. leg sb. 7, long narrow meadow usually by the side of a brook.

<sup>4</sup> messuage. <sup>5</sup> yardland, virgate, 30 acres. <sup>6</sup> oven. <sup>7</sup> strips of a rood each.

<sup>8</sup> farm, rent.

George Villers<sup>1</sup> xiis. Item of a meise with certen londes in Gildmoreton in the holdyng of John Sprygg in rent of assise iiis. iiid. Item of a tenement in Miche Asshby<sup>2</sup> in the holdyng of Tho. Moreton vis. Item of certen londes in Ratlyf in the holdyng of Tho. Crampe by yere iiid. for ii hennes. Item of certen londes in Scraptoft in the holdyng of Redley vid. Item of certen londes in Cosby in the holdyng of Broughton vid.

*Summa xxxiis. ix.*

*Summa totalis rentes xviili. viis. vid. ob.*

*Gilda mercatorum.* Item wee the seid Chaumberleins charge vs reysevid of the ferme of the Shepysmarket iiiid. vis. viiid. (List of those entering the gild and their fees.) Item wee the seid Chaumberlens charge vs with money reisevid of Rob. Davy for the redemeyng of Chamberlenship liiis. iiid. Item of Christofer Clough for the same liiis. iiid. Item wee charge vs with money receued of Ric. Stacy xixs. xd. Item of Will. Whytt for the same xs.

*Summa xxili. viiis. iid.*

*Summa totalis charges<sup>3</sup> xxxviii. xvs. viiid. ob.*

*Rentes peide owt.* In primis peide to the kyng in rentes of assise for diuers growndes and tenementes in Seint Margaret parisshe xxiid. Item peide to the kyng for a tenement within the Sowthe Yate in the holdyng of John Herryng xiid. Item peide to the kyng for the comen Buttes iiid. Item peide to the kyng for a peese of grounde byhynde the buttes iiid. Item peide to the kyng for a tenement next the Bulhede iis. Item peide to the bailly of Wynchester fee<sup>4</sup> for certen londes in Wheston for suyt of court xiid. Item peide to the lord Hastynges for certen londes their iiis. xd. Item peide for the obbit of Sir Ric. Ikesley<sup>5</sup> prist kept in the chyrche of Seint Margaret for a tenement in Belgraue Yate xxiid. Item peide to the Deane of Seint Maries for a tenement next the Horsemylne vid. Item to the same Deane for a tenement in the holdyng of John Heryng iiid. Item peide to the same Deane for ii tenementes in the Church Lane in the holdyng of Mr Ric. Gillott xviid. Item peide to the kyng for a tenement next the Horsemylne xiid. Item peide to the kyng for diuerse tenementes without the North yate iiis. iiid. Item to the Deane of Seint Maries for a tenement at the Hygh Crose somtyme in the holdyng of Rob. Knoles.

*Summa xxiis. vid.*

<sup>1</sup> On George Villiers' lands in Leicestershire see Nichols' *Leicestershire* 111. 192.

<sup>2</sup> Ashby Magna.

<sup>3</sup> charges = receipts, discharges = expenses.

<sup>4</sup> See II. 154.

<sup>5</sup> See II. 300—1.

*Fees with othur paymentes.* In primis peide to Mr Tho. Smyth then beyng meir in the name of his fee<sup>1</sup> xli. Item peide to the Recorدار for his fee<sup>1</sup> xxvis. viiid. Item peide to Will. Bolt<sup>2</sup> for his fee<sup>1</sup> vis. viiid.; peide to the same meir for expensis don on the Recorدار and justices of peise with othur in tyme of sessions at ii tymes xiiis. iiiid. Item peide to Nic. Heyn and Nic. Wasse Chaumberlens in the name of their fee<sup>1</sup> xls. Item peide to the meiris clarke for makeyng of this accompt<sup>1</sup> iis. iiiid. Item peide for makeyng of the rentroll<sup>1</sup> xd. Item peide to John Robynson for clenseyng of the market plase in the name of a fee<sup>1</sup> vis. viiid. Item in expensis don at Wheston Court<sup>1</sup> as appeer by a bill xis. Item to the clerke for fkeptyng<sup>†</sup> the Court<sup>1</sup> xiid. Item peide for makyng of the roles for the xv penny<sup>3</sup> iis. iiiid. Item for wrytyng of the statutes of Laborers and the statutes of vacabondes and beggers iis. iiiid. Item peide to Mr Bailly for comysshon xiid. Item peide to Mr Fowler for his fee vis. viiid. Item peide for bayes<sup>4</sup> for the pore peple iiii. viiid.

*Summa xvili. viiis. vid.*

*Expences of Wyne<sup>5</sup>.* In primis in wyne presented to my lord of Shrovyssbury<sup>6</sup> xvid. Item in wyne presented to the Deane of the kynges chappell xxiiid. Item in wyne presented to my lord Hastynges on Symonddey and Jude (Oct. 28) xxid. Item in wyne presented to the kynges auditor xxid. Item in wyne presented to my lord deane of the Newarke iis. viiid. Item in wyne presented to my lord Asshrouysbury<sup>6</sup> on Palme Sondey iis. vid. Item for ii galons wyne presented to Mr Belcenape xvid. Item in wyne presented to my lord of Shrouysbury at a nothur tyme iis. Item in wyne presented to my lord Hastynges on the Newfeer<sup>7</sup> evon iis. vid. Item in wyne spent at the chapter to the chanons at the Hygh Crose x galons gasgon wyne vis. viiid. in kakes xiid. Item wafforns<sup>8</sup> viiid.

*Summa xxvs. xd.*

*Reparacions<sup>9</sup>.* In primis for iii peises of tymber to Ranelles howse xiid. Item a nothur peise of tymber to the same howse iiiid.

<sup>1</sup> And so regularly, in the years to come, where these payments will not be further noted.

<sup>2</sup> Probably Mayor's clerk.

<sup>3</sup> See above.

<sup>4</sup> "bagges" below p. 10, and "cokons" = escutcheons elsewhere, probably badges, for the licensed beggars.

<sup>5</sup> After this year the precise nature of the render of wine will not be noted, and the names of recipients only will be given.

<sup>6</sup> George Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, Steward of the Household. He had married Anne Hastings.

<sup>7</sup> New Year.

<sup>8</sup> wafers.

<sup>9</sup> Similar building accounts are rendered annually. In later rolls only items of special interest will be noted.

Item peide for neilles to the same howse viiid. Item for bordes and lathes to the same howse iiis. *id.* Item to ii wryghtes a dey xiiid. Item to ii torchares<sup>1</sup> for a deyse warke their xvid. Item for carriage of moke out of the same howse iiis. *id.* Item for a lode of sande iiid. Item for lathe and neilles iid. Item peide to ii sklaters and a seruar half a dey viiid. Item peide to a wryght for half a dye warke their iiid. Item peide for half a lode of lyme xxd. Item peid for sklates and sklat pynnes iiid. Item peide to ii sklaters & a seruer their xvid. Item for lathes and neilles to the chaumbers ouer the Est Yate iid. ob. Item to ii torchers their iiid. Item for lytter iid. Item to ii sklaters and a seruer their xvid. Item peide to ii wryghtes half a dey at the howse which Hugh Elles late helde for half a dey warke vid. Item for v sparres<sup>2</sup> their vd. Item for a borde ouer the wyndow iid. Item for neilles *id.* Item for mendyng of a lattes<sup>3</sup> their vd. Item to ii sklaters and a seruar a dey their xvid. Item peide for thake<sup>4</sup> rope their iiid. Item for lathes iid. Item for neilles *id.* ob. Item for lode of stoble iis. iiid. Item peide for thakeyng of the same xxd. Item peide to ii torchers for a dey warke their viiid. Item for thake rope *id.* ob. Item for neilles iiid. Item for a lode of cley iiid. Item for lytter iid. Item for anothur lode of cley iiid. Item peide for a lode of stoble to the swynherdes howse iis. Item for thakeyng of the same xxd. Item for lathes and neilles to the same vd. Item for makeyng a wyndow and mendyng of a durr iid. Item for mendyng of a guttur their iid. Item peide for leed to a guttur their xvid. ob. Item peide to ii laborers their for half a dey warke iiid. Item for thakerope *id.* ob. Item for a lode of cley iiid. Item for iii stolpes<sup>5</sup> to the pynfolde in the market plase iis. Item for another stolpe viiid. Item for ii keles<sup>6</sup> to the same xiiid. Item for ii dur chekes<sup>7</sup> to the same vid. Item for a durr xvid. Item for ironwarke to the same xiiid. Item for palle<sup>8</sup> and bord to the same iis. iiid. Item for a horseloke<sup>9</sup> to the same viiid. Item to a wryght for warkmanshepe of the same and mendyng the stokes<sup>10</sup> iis. Item for mendyng of the maase<sup>11</sup> xxiiid. Item for mendyng of the armes at the Sowth Yate viiid. Item for mendyng of the chen<sup>12</sup> at the Est Yate iiid. Item for mendyng of the brason mase iiid. Item for iii keys to iii tenements vid. Item for mendyng of a loke to the Kowhey iid. Item for a key to Laverokes howse iid. †Item

<sup>1</sup> plasterers.<sup>2</sup> rafters.<sup>3</sup> lattice.<sup>4</sup> thatch.<sup>5</sup> posts.<sup>6</sup> The *k* may perhaps be an *r*: reles, rails.<sup>7</sup> door-cheeks, side-posts of door.<sup>8</sup> palings? see paleboard in *Durham Accounts Rolls*, Glossary.<sup>9</sup> See N.E.D. a padlock.<sup>10</sup> stocks.<sup>11</sup> mace.<sup>12</sup> chain.

peide for bagges for pore folke iiis. viiid.† Item for iii Sparres to the Kowhey iiid. Item peide for dyggeng of turves for the buttes viid.

*Summa xlixs. ixđ. ob.*

(v<sup>o</sup>) *Dekeyse*<sup>1</sup>. In primis in dekey ii chaumbers ouer the North Yate vs. Item in dekey ii tenementes in the Dede lane late in the holdyng of Will. Shawe iiis. Item wee aske allowance for a stable theire in the holdyng of John Westowes iis. iid. Item in dekey a garden somtyme in the holdyng of John Collens vid. Item in dekey a tenement in the Swynes market somtyme in the holdyng of Rob. Knoles viiis. Item in dekey a tenement their now in the holdyng of Randell Hyll vis. viiid. Item we aske allowance of a tenement in Belgrauē ȝate late in the holdyng of John Spenser xvid. Item in dekey a garden their somtyme in the holdyng of Margaret Stener vid. Item in dekey a benke<sup>2</sup> in a tenement in the North Yate in the holdyng of Will. Plommer xiiid. a coke and ii hennes prise vđ. Item in dekey of a tenement at the North Bryg in the holdyng of John Segraue xvid. Item in a dekey a tenement next the Bulhede vis. iiiid. Item in dekey a tenement in the Church lane iis. iiiid. Item in dekey of chef rent for certen londes in Ratlif in the holdyng of Crampe for ii hennes iiid. Item in dekey of a meise with vii rode londe and a half in Weston †their† in the holdyng of Glover xviiid. Item we aske allowance for a cotage & iii rode londe in the holdyng of Tho. Rowse iiiid. Item in dekey a tenement in Belgrauē Gate late in the holdyng of John Spenser vs.

*Summa xlvis. viiid.*

Item we aske allowance for the expens don of Mr Meir and the auditors at this accompt vis. viiid. Item for charcoll iiid.

*Summa vis. xid.*

*Summa totalis disch[argata] xxiiiili. iid. ob.*

<sup>3</sup>Compotatis compotandis et dicti camerarii debent clare villatae summam xiiiili. xvs. vid. Unde supra soluerunt super pedem compoti Willelmi Byller et<sup>4</sup> Thome Hyne xiiiili. iiis. vid. et dicti compotantes soluerunt Thome Myddylton et Willelmo Westoses xxxiis. vid. et sic recessit quietus (*sic*).

<sup>1</sup> Property from which no revenue was received. The list of decays will not be given from later rolls. The list tends to grow shorter towards 1570.

<sup>2</sup> ? shop-stall.

<sup>3</sup> Everything having been accounted for, the said chamberlains owe the town clear the sum of £14. 15s. 6d., whereof was paid on the foot of the account of W. B. and T. H. £13. 3s. 6d. and the said accountants paid T. M. and W. W. £1. 12s. 3d. and so he withdrew quit.

<sup>4</sup> 'and' crossed out.

X. *Rental of Corpus Christi Gild.*

Box 7, No. 184 (b). [? 1517—18.] In bad condition. Rents at will £21. 17s. 0d. Chief rents and annuities not added.

XI. *Rental of Corpus Christi Gild*<sup>1</sup>.

Box 7, No. 180. [1519.] *Rents at will.* A cottage in the Dedlane...a close by the barkarhowse...a close besyde Seint James Church...a close in Normandy...a garden pleke<sup>2</sup> somtyme a tenement within the North yate...at the lytle North bryg...in the hygh stret...in the Church lane...tenement in Applegate...a bey<sup>3</sup> of a barne in the Dedlane...tenement in the Swynesmarket...tenement called the Crown...a mese within the Est yate...a meise without the same yate...a tenement in the Rowndell...in galtregate...in the holdyng of the horselech wif...in humberstongate...3 shoppes in the Saturdey market letton to 3 brethorn ironmongers...a howse in the church yarde...of the veker of Barkeby for certen londes their...certen londes in the South felde...for 30 acre londe geffon to the gilde by Agnes Whyt...tenement...called Sent Katerins howse...Sum £22. 3s. 4d.

*Chief rents and annuities.* ...of the provost of the Newark...of the same for a garden byside the Shire hall...a croft beside Sepulcre church...tenement in the Sore lane...of the Deane of Seint Maris close...of Mr Swylllyngton for a peise of medow in Burges medowe somtyme lord Lovelles 2s. Item of Euerard Dygby called the Peikcok 12d. ...grounde in the Dede lane...garden besyde the shire hall...of the veker of Seint Nicolas...in the whotgate<sup>4</sup>...called the yate howse...a tenement called the Cardenall hate...6s...for a drawght<sup>5</sup> on the Chauntrie grounde...of the abbott of Leycester for the corner howse at the Church lane ende...in the swynesmarket...tenement called the bell...in the parchement lane...a barne in parchement lane...at the hyghcrose...a meise in the Sore lane...tenement called the George...diverse shoppes within the Est yate...tenement in Belgrave gate called the Talbott...garden in Soper lane...in Galtregate...in Humberstongate...by the Rowndell...a garden of the towr wall...2 meises in the Canke. (Total not added.)

<sup>1</sup> Cf. II. 296, 346, 376 and No. XLVIII. below. The above account is imperfect.

<sup>2</sup> pleck=plot of ground, see W. H. Stevenson's *Nottingham Records*, Glossary, IV. 2

<sup>3</sup> See N.E.D. s.v. bay on this division of a house or barn.

<sup>4</sup> Hotgate, where the ovens were, see below.

<sup>5</sup> withdrawing place, privy.

XII. *Ordinance on the Pinfold.*

Hall Book I, p. 130. [Nov. 18, 1519.] †Memorandum at the comone hall before seyde it is agreyd by the same mayre and hys brethere and the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> in the name off the hole body off the town that no man within the town shall dryfe no maner off catell to the Castell to be pynyed for no trespas, for yf they do so they shall redeme them owte of the Castell off ther owne costes as ofte tymes as they so do. Moreower all maner off catell that be fownd trespasyng to eny man, lett the catell be dryffen to the comen pynfold off the towne that is in the Seterday market, and there to remane tyll the parteys pleyntyff be agreyd withall.†

XIII. *Arbitration and Assize of Candles.*

Hall Book I, p. 216. [1520?] (Memorandum of a settlement of all disputes between Will. Wygston and John Dalton merchant of the staple of Calais, before witnesses, the mayor, clerk, and sergeant.)

Be hyt known to all men y<sup>at</sup> I Will. Wygston in y<sup>e</sup> thyrd tyme off my meraltie y<sup>e</sup> XII yer off kyng Harre y<sup>e</sup> VIII hat[h] ped all y<sup>e</sup> ffosed some saff<sup>1</sup> my obliggacons xs. ix*d*. y<sup>e</sup> XII dey off Aprell<sup>2</sup>.

[*Chandlers.*] Be it knowen that is condicendyd and agreede bytwext Mr Meire and his brethorn on the on partie and the talow chaundelers of the town of the othure partie that the same talow chaundelers and euery of them shall serue inhabitauntes of the towne sufficiently with candelles for *ixd.* quarter the pownde, euery on of them vnder peyn of xxxs. to be levid to the vse of the town bytwext this and Shroft tyde next commyng.

XIV. *Royal commission for retainers.*

Hall Book I, p. 130. [Jan. 13, 1520?] Memorandum that ther was deliuered to Mr Mere by the hand off Rawfe Swyllington, Recorder, the XIII<sup>th</sup> day off January a docket of the kynges comysoon for reteners the wich was opynly proclamyd in the market the next Seterday after in menyng<sup>3</sup> to all the kynges peple anders to the kynges grace in the forseyd commision.

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foresaid sum save.

<sup>2</sup> Scribbled in, probably by Wigston himself.

<sup>3</sup> menacing.



XV. *Royal commission for the Sheriff's panel.*

Hall Book I, p. 131. [Jan. 20, 1520.] Memorandum that the xx<sup>th</sup> day off January in the XI<sup>th</sup> yere off the reygne off oure soffran lord kyng Henry the VIII<sup>th</sup>, Will. Skeuyngton, knyght, send the kynges commandment to Mr Will. Bartlat then beyng mayre off the towne off Leyster, the wych commandment concernyd the shyryff the ondershyryffes and all other the kynges offycers in the executyng off trewe justes in euery off the forseyd offesys as for the inpanellyng off trew and indyffrent questes with many other thynges concernyng trew justes, the whych commyscion was openly proclamyd in the market off Leyster the next Setyrday foloyng.

XVI. *Agreement to find a priest at St Martin's.*

Hall Book I, p. 276. [Feb. 23, 1520.] <sup>1</sup>(Robert Haselrig of Nottingham merchant of the staple of Calais, binds himself and his heirs to pay Will. Rubley and Tho. Hynd of Arden wardens (prepositi) of St Martin's church, £100.)

The condicion of this obligacion is suche that if [y<sup>e</sup>] aboute boundon Rob. Hasylyrygge fynd [or] cause to be fonde ane honest pryste to syng in Seynt Martyn Church of Leycestere by [y<sup>e</sup> sp]ace of xv yeres immediately folowyng the date aboute writton, payng the seid preist yerely for his stipend *v*l*i.* off lafull money of England, that then this present obligacion be voyde and for nought be had and ellis to stand in full strength and vertu. (Signed by Haselrig.)

XVII. *Proclamation on the Mayor's authority in executing statutes of vagabonds and beggars.*

Hall Book I, p. 131. [March 5, 1520.] Memorandum that the v<sup>th</sup> day off March in the XI<sup>th</sup> yer off the reying off our soffrain lord k. Henrie the VIII<sup>th</sup>, Sir Harry Wyllohyby Shyryff off Warwyke and Leystershyre hath deliuered by the commandment off the kynges justes off assise sarten instruccions as toching vacabundes and beggers, and for the ponyschment off them and other mysedoers put in execucion by maister Mere and hys brether justeces off the pese, baylyfe, constablys, with all other officers with proclamacions maid within this towne of Leyster and the forseyd instruccions set vp upon the iiii portes off the towne ffor the †recognynscion‡ that maister Meyre, hys brether, with all other officers, dothe execute the statutes accordyng to the kynges commandementes.

<sup>1</sup> In Latin. Haselrig is often mentioned in *Nottingham Records* III.

The namys off the Bedyls ffor the execucion of ye instruccions.  
(One for each of the four quarters, North, South, East and West.)

XVIII. *Royal proclamation on the keeping of the peace.*

Box J, No. 474. [May 18, 1520.] *Henry Rex*<sup>1</sup>. By the King. Trusty and welbiloued, we grete you well. And where as we at this tyme haue written as well to the Shirif of that our Shire, as also to the Justices of our Peax within the same Shire commanding and straitly charging theym that they and euery of theym to the best of thair powers, endeavour theym for the keping of our peax and thentre-aignement of our subgiettes in good quiet and restfulnes during the tyme of our journey into the parties of beyonde the see: To the which we entende to dispose us, about the later end of this present moneth of May<sup>2</sup>: We woll and likewise straitly charge you to endeavour you to kepe and entretaigne our subgiettes dwelling within that our towne and borough or any other place or places being vnder your rule, gouuernance and iurisdiccion in so sure and substanciall ordre that our peax during our said absence be fymely obserued. Theves, vagaboundes and other malefactours and misruled personnes taken and committed to warde according to our lawes, and our said subgiettes duely kept from all riottes, vnlawfull assembles and all other sedicions and rebellious conuencions. We woll also that for the better executing of this our commandement, ye in like wise not oonly cause nightly double watche to be kept during our said absence in our said townes and all other places being vnder your iurisdiccion, but also make or cause to be made within the same ones<sup>3</sup> in euery weke, in the night tyme in as subdayne<sup>4</sup> and secret manner as may bee diuised, due and diligent serche not oonly in manifest suspect houses but also in other places after your discrecion for theves, valiant beggars, vagaboundes and all other suspect and idle disposed personnes, and suche of theym as shalbe so founde to committ to warde and sure keping there to remaigne to<sup>5</sup> you be enformed of thair conversacion and disposicions: and where ye shall fynde cause, punyssment be had as shall accorde with our lawes. Yeuen vnder our signet at our Manour of Grenewich, the xviii<sup>th</sup> daie of May.

(Endorsed: "To our trusty and welbiloued the Maire and his brethern of our Town and borough of Leicestre.")

<sup>1</sup> Autograph of Henry VIII. Not among the facsimiles of proclamations.

<sup>2</sup> The king left for the Field of the Cloth of Gold on May 31, 1520.

<sup>3</sup> ones = once.

<sup>4</sup> subdayne = sudden.

<sup>5</sup> to = till.

XIX. *Prowdlof's riot*<sup>1</sup>.

Hall Book I, p. 138. [Oct. 2, 1520.] Memorandum the second day off Octobre in the XII<sup>th</sup> yere off owre soffren lord Kyng Henry y<sup>e</sup> VIII<sup>th</sup> the day off the sescions holde within the toun off Leister for the dew execucion of y<sup>e</sup> paix off owre soffren lord aboueseyd their beyng in presens the justeces of the paxse ffor y<sup>e</sup> kyng Mr Will. Wyston the elder and the III<sup>de</sup> tyme of hys meyralltey, Raufe Swyllington recorder, Will. Bartelatt, Ric. Beeston, Tho. Smyth, Joh. Reed and coronyers, then beyng in presens for y<sup>e</sup> kyng, Rob. Staples and Edw. Beer, Oon Will. Prowdluf vintener off the same towne off Leicester in the pleyne cowrte off y<sup>e</sup> sescions beffore y<sup>e</sup> forseyd justeces maid a ryat and fray apon Mr Will. Olyffe of the same towne, fychmonger, and stroke the seid Will. Olyfe with a staffe apon hys arme, which fray and ryat was presented beffore y<sup>e</sup> seyde justices, and the forseyd Will. Prowdelufe was indyted ffor the ryatt and ther was lafte in bale at Mr Meyrs comaundement by the space off III days and III nyghtes, and theyre fflownd seurty for the payxs and to aunswer that the laue wyll juge hym ffor that ryat as aperynt in Mr Meyris Boke off y<sup>e</sup> actes<sup>2</sup> etc. etc.

XX. *Borough Ordinances.*

Hall Book I, p. 140. [Nov. 16, 1520.] *For breyd.* At the common hall holdyn their the same day<sup>3</sup> beffore Will. Wygston the elder by the hole assent and grement off the forseyd meyre and his brether, the XXIIII<sup>ti</sup> comburgeses and allso off all the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup>, then beyng present, in thys maner and forme it is ordent and agreyd, stablysshid & enactyd ffor the comonwelt off the towne, that all bakers off the cuntre that bryng bred to sell make goode bred and holsom ffor mans body, and weygh after the syse, and that no baker off y<sup>e</sup> contre bryng in no maner off bred into y<sup>e</sup> towne bot on the market days, y<sup>at</sup> is Wednesday, Fryday, & to set ther brede downe at the Hygh Crose, and there to sell to euery man that wyll by hit by the *id.* worth or ii penyworth. Allso that no foren baker cary no bred to non off ther costomers in pene off forfettyng ther brede to y<sup>e</sup> kyng, and ther bodys to be inprisonyd at Mr Meris commandment; and y<sup>e</sup> Seterday to bryng ther bred into the Seterday market and the<sup>4</sup> to sell hit.

<sup>1</sup> See No. VIII. above.<sup>2</sup> Not found.<sup>3</sup> The date is at the head, in Latin.<sup>4</sup> the = they.

[*Chamberlain's Accounts.*] Allso at the same comon hall it is agreyd by the hole consent before namyd that cuer more hereafter that the fyrst Fryday in Clene Lenton<sup>1</sup> to haue a common hall kepyd and ther the chaumberlens accomptes to be shewyd that it may be knowyn in what degre the towne stand in.

[*Assize of bread.*] Allso at the same comon hall it is agreyd by the hole consent before namyd and euermore hereafter to be ferme and stabull that all bakers that bake to sale make good bred and holsom for manys body accordyng to the syse, and that bred that is not abull<sup>2</sup> paste the baker to forfett the fyrste tyme iiis. iiiid. and the second tyme vis. viiid. and so to dobull as ofton tymys that peyne as they make defaute.

(p. 141.) Allso all that bake rye bred for pore people make good bred and holsom and that it stand the more parte be rye and the chesell<sup>3</sup> of whett acordyng to the statute and they that do nat to forfet the peyn<sup>4</sup> beforeseyd and their bodis to be ponysyd acordyng to the laue.

[*Assize of Ale.*] Allso all brewers that brew to sale make good ale and holsom and myghty<sup>5</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> corne acordyng to y<sup>e</sup> olde statute<sup>6</sup>, and to sell xiii galons for iis. viid. and thos brewers that make defaute in making off ale the fyrste tyme to forfet iiis. iiiid. and the second tyme vis. viiid. and so to dowbyll as ofton as they make defaute.

Allso to make good holsome ale for the pore people of a ob.<sup>7</sup> y<sup>e</sup> galon that y<sup>e</sup> pore maye the better be releuid and whosoeuer fynd theym greuid with this acte cum to maister meyre and they shall haue remedy.

[*Mayor's Brethren and the Assize.*] Allso it is enactyd that yf eny of Mr Meris brether that do bake or breue to sale and make defaute in eney cause before rehersyd, as ofte tymys so makyng defaute that then y<sup>e</sup> peyne aboweseyd to be dowblyd ouer the petey brewers.

[*Ale-tasters.*] Allso that no brewer within this towne sell forthe no ale tyll the allderman of that ward and too of y<sup>e</sup> XLVIII<sup>th</sup> haue tasted their alis bothe the best and y<sup>e</sup> second in pene of forfeture the fyrst tyme iiis. iiiid. and so to dowbyll as ofte as they make defawte; and yf the allderman of the ward be a brewer hymselfe or thos that [are] of the XLVIII<sup>th</sup>, then to call the allderman of y<sup>e</sup> next ward to taste as aboweseyd for they that be brewers schallbe no tasters.

<sup>1</sup> i.e. Lent; s.v. Lenten, N.E.D.

<sup>2</sup> bran. N.E.D. s.v. chisel.

<sup>3</sup> strong.

<sup>6</sup> II. 288 (1467).

<sup>2</sup> proper.

<sup>4</sup> penalty.

<sup>7</sup>  $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

[*Scaled measures.*] Allso that no typler within this towne sell no ale with onlawfull mesures as pottes and goders<sup>1</sup> but with mesures seylyd accordyng to the kynges statute, in pene as ofte so fownd with suche defaute to forfet *iiii*d.

Allso it is enactyd thatt all maner of mesures within the towne as strykes, galons, potell, quartis, pyntes, and all other mesures, to be broght before Mr Meyre, bothe seylyd and onseylyd, and thos that be abyll shall be admytted, and those that be not abyll to be mendyd accordyng to the kynges standard.

### XXI. *Bond of a harbourer of suspected persons.*

Hall Book I, p. 139. [Dec. 28, 1520.] Memorandum that Will. Reynekylls off Leicester hath promysyd be his feyth and terowth to Mr Will. Wygston thelder y<sup>e</sup> xxviii<sup>th</sup> deye of December then beyng mere off Leicester that the forseyd Will. shall not frome that day forward harbrough no persons suspeckyd contrary to the kynges statute<sup>2</sup> in peyne off forfeiture euery tyme so fownd in defaute to lose xls. and hys body to be at Mr Merys ponysment.

### XXII. *Standard Measures.*

Hall Book I, p. 139. [Jan. 17, 1521.] Memorandum it was agreid at y<sup>e</sup> same hall that Mr Harward showld by at London ffor the comon welth off the towne 1 lauffull strike<sup>3</sup> off brasse with a galon off brasse, a yarde off brasse by the standerd, and all other weyghtes and mesuris nedefull to be hade within the towne of Leistre, and at his comyng home the chaumberlens to content and paye to y<sup>e</sup> forseyd Rob. Harward all costes and charges off the same.

### XXIII. *Borough Lease.*

Ibid. [Jan. 17, 1521.] Allso at the same comyn hall there come Mr Ric. Eyre on off y<sup>e</sup> comburgenses and there deliuered up a garden liyng in the Deed Lane that he had takyn by his promisse ffor terme off his lyfe and to peye yerely ffor hit eueri yere *iiii*s. Newer the leese<sup>4</sup> the forseid Mr Ric. Eyre for the good will that he owyth to y<sup>e</sup> towne of Leister and to haue the fauore off his brether comburges and the comonalte off the same towne hath graunted to paye †to† for that yere

<sup>1</sup> goddard, drinking-cup.

<sup>2</sup> For *statute*.

<sup>3</sup> bushel.

<sup>4</sup> nevertheless.

rent to the chamberlens iiis. and so euery yere after to paye to the behofe off the towne iiis. duryng his lyfe and the chamberlens for the tyme beyng to haue the lettyng and setting off the same grounde ffor the moste behove and profet to the towne and the recorde to be ferme and stable duryng the lyffe off the forsaid Mr Eyre.

#### XXIV. *Borough Ordinances.*

Hall Book I, p. 142. [Sep. 16, 1521.] *For the chamberlyns money yf they wil [not] be chamberlyns.* At the common hall holdyn their the same day before Mr Will. Wyston the elder and the iii<sup>de</sup> tyme of his meyraltie by the hole asseynt and consent off Mr Meyre and hys brether the xxiiii<sup>ti</sup> comburges and allso off all the xlvi<sup>ti</sup> then beyng present in the name of the hole body off the towne, it is enactyd and euer more hereafter to be firme and stabull to all men that shall cum hereafter, to haue trew knowlage that frome the day off the making off this acte there shall no man redeme the chamberleynshyppe vnder the sum off vii. sterlyng; and yff eny mere<sup>1</sup> here after do or wold breke this acte, that then the same mere to forfet vii. and to be leyuyed by the meyre that schall succede in the offece of y<sup>e</sup> meyralte, and yff he will not execute this acte then he to forfet xli. and to be leuiyd to the commonwelth of y<sup>e</sup> towne yf that this acte be brokyn throught the defaute of y<sup>e</sup> forseyd meris.

[*Archers provided.*] Allso it is agreyd at the same common hall that ther shall be fownd at the char[g]e off Mr Mere and his brether and the xlvi<sup>ti</sup> x abull archars in harnes with bowys and arrowes, swordes & buckelers with oder abull harnes for ther bodys, and v of theyme to be harnesyd at the charge and cost off y<sup>e</sup> xxiiii<sup>ti</sup>, and y<sup>e</sup> oder v at the charge off the xlvi<sup>ti</sup>, and to be redy within a day waryng when it shall plese y<sup>e</sup> kynges grace to send for theyme.

Hall Book I, p. 146. [Sep. 21, 1521.] *Brewers.* At the same common hall holldun theire the same daye beffore Rob. Harward meire by the hole assent and grement off the forseid meire and his brether the xxiiii<sup>ti</sup> aldermen and allso of all the xlvi<sup>ti</sup> electyd off the commons their beyng present in this maner and forme foloyng, it [is] ordenid and agreyd stablysyd and enacted ffor the common welth off the towne, fyrste that all brewers that brew to sale make good ale and holsome and to sell ffor id. ob y<sup>e</sup> galon and the<sup>2</sup> y<sup>at</sup> make defawte to be ponisyd accordyng to y<sup>e</sup> lawwe the which proclamation was alteryd at the fest of Seynt John Baptist. id. q<sup>a</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Mayor.

<sup>2</sup> the = they.

*Tallow-chaundlers.* Allso that all tallow-chaundlers sell for *id.* the *li.* of candyll and he or they that brekes the ordynans withowte concente off the Mr mere and his brether to forfet at euerye tyme so makyng defawte *iiis. iiid.*

*For receyuing of bred out of the countrie.* Allso that their shall no maner of person nor persoynes receyue no bred owte off the cuntrie tyll that it be seyne and weyd before Mr meire or by his officers and by the wardens off bakers apon peyne euery tyme so makyng defaute to fforfet *xiiid.* and to be leueyd by the chaumburley[n]s ffor the welth of the towne.

*For prouynge of ordynalles.* Allso it is ordenyd that Mr Meire and his brether, *iiii* or *v* or *viii*, shall accepte and prove all ordenalles off all the ocupacions within this towne and thoes costomes that be gode to alow them and thos that be eyvyll to dame theym.

*For corne receyued into mens houses.* Allso that no maner off man nor woman shall receyue no maner of corne that comys on the markett daye to be solde tyll hit haue ben in the comon market place and there sett downe tyll the markett be full gederd, wheder hit be solde or onsolde, in peyne so makyng defaute the fyrste tyme to lose *xiiid.*, and euery tyme after to dowbyll.

*Meyses sergyant.* Allso that all trespassers that arre commytted to ponsyment to Mr Meires hall shall take their wictualles of the sargyaunt excepte mens<sup>1</sup> sons and prentesys.

*Horsebred.* Allso that all bakars that selle horse brede within the howses to eney gest, sell but *ii* lowis<sup>2</sup> ffor *id.*, in peyne at euery tyme makyng suche defawte to forfet *iiis. iiid.*

Book of Acts, p. 26. [Nov. 22, 1521.] *An act for settinge vp of corne.* At a common hall holdyn the Fryeday next before the feast of Sent Clement in the *xiii*<sup>th</sup> yer of Kynge Henry the *viii*<sup>t</sup> in the tyme of meraltye of Mr Robt. Harware at the same common hall yt was enactyd & establisshed by the holl assent & agrement of the seid mayer his brethryn, the *xxiiii*<sup>th</sup> & the *xlvi*<sup>th</sup> then beyng present, that no maner of man nor woman shall receve no maner of corne that commythe on the markyt day to the markyt to be solde into ther housys to be set vpp tyll the same corne haue ben fyrst in the markyt place & ther set downe to be solde, & further that no man, woman, nor seruauant, after the markyt be done, receve any maner of corne into ther housys to be sett vppe vntyll another markyt daye, vppon payn of euery man, as well the housekeper as the owner of the corne, to forfeyt for euery tyme takyn or knowne with suche default *vis. viiid.*

<sup>1</sup> ? for freemen's.

<sup>2</sup> loaves.

XXV. *Town Accounts.*

Hall Book I, p. 148. [Mar. 7, 1522.] At the same halle holdyn their the accompt off Will. Westose and of Tho. Middilton<sup>1</sup> was their schewyd and oponly knyown that the forseid accountaunts owth clere to the towne the sum of vi*li*. xii*d*. ob. the which sum they haue promysyd to paye to Tho. Cressey and to Will. Prate, they beyng chamberlens etc.

[*Town debts.*] At the same comon hall was there fownd dewe to the towne certen money that was grauntyd of benevolence for dischargyng off the dettes that y<sup>e</sup> towne was in det in the tyme of y<sup>e</sup> meralltey of Mr Smyth, the which sum drawith to the sum off xxiis. ii*ii*d. as apperith in the byll of Rob. Gaddysbey, off which sum was granted to Tho. Mulcastre for the losse of a horse that was loste at London in Master Bartellates tyme for serten *suppena* that he apperyd to, for the which horse was gyfyn to Mulcastre off the forseyd sum xvis. in recompense.

(Sureties named for the rent of the sheep-pens.)

XXVI. *Precept on wearing of liveries.*

Box J, No. 434. [March 20, 1522.] *For weyrynge of Lyveryes.* Henry, by the grace of God, King of England and of Fraunce and lord of Irland. To oure trusty and welbeloued the Mair and his brethern of oure town of Leicester, parcell of our duchie of Lancastre, and the Recorder of the same, and to euery of them gretyng. Whereas by takyng of lyverys and cognisaunce, grete inconvenyences, contrauersies and debates haue often tymes hapned within this oure Royaume in diuers places of the same, to the grete disturbaunce of oure Commons in the same: For the reformation wherof and for the tranquillite and peax to be had thurgh this oure said Royaume, it is ordeyned and ennacted by auctorite of our Parliament that no manner of personne shall reteign ne be reteigned nor geve ne take lyverys ne cognisaunce vppon grete paynes, as in the act therof made it apperith at large: We therfore woll and straitly charge you that according to the same, from hensforth ye suffre noun inhabytant

<sup>1</sup> The chamberlains whose term of office had expired. The Hall Books now contain in each year's memoranda a brief statement to the effect that the chamberlains' accounts have been heard.



within our said town of what degre or condicion soeuer he be, to be reteigned by cloth<sup>1</sup>, cognisaunce, othe, or otherwise contrarie to our said lawes and statutes made and ordeyned in that behalf: Except ononly with vs to do vs seruice whan they therunto shalbe required in the retynue of oure Stuardes there for the tyme being. And that hereupon ye do make proclamacion in oure name at tyme or tymes conveyent within oure said town for the due performaunce and executyng of the premysses. And if any personne or personnes attempt the breche of oure said lawes and statutes within our said town, and woll not folowe the same, vppon our proclamacions by you there to be made in this behalf: We woll and charge you that ye the said Mair and Recorder from tyme to tyme do certifie oure Chaunceller and Counsell of our said duchie of the name and names of all personnes so offendyng to thentent we may provide for the streight and sharp punycion therof according to our lawes in that behalf: Not fayling herof as ye wol avoide oure high displeasir. Yeuen at our Paloyes of Westminster, the xx<sup>th</sup> day of Marche, the xiii<sup>th</sup> yere of our reign. Per consilium ducatus predicti. [W. Heydon<sup>2</sup>.]

XXVII. *Constable's Oath.*

Hall Book I, p. 272. [March 30, 1522.] *The othe off constaples concernyng the comission off ooure sufferan kyng Henr the VIII<sup>th</sup> the xxx<sup>te</sup> daye of Marci Anno xiii<sup>mo</sup>.* Ye shall make trewe presentement by thothis that ye mayd off all & singler persons within yowr ward as well spirituell as temporall and of wedowes and off them that be off thage off xvi yerez or abowe what harnes thei haue to yowre knolage meit & able for warre, and the walu off euery off ther goodes & the yerely valure of all & singler landes & tenementes & other profetts what thei haue or be worth within your seid wardes, and yff ther be eny reteyned and to whome, and their be any alyens or straungers borne out of the kynges allegaunce, and who is stward and who be lordes and whos tennauntes and of whom the<sup>3</sup> holde.

XXVIII. *Proclamation ordering the arrest of French subjects.*

Box C, No. 435. [May 19, 1522.] Henry the Eight by the grace of god, King of Englund, and of Fraunce, defensor of the feith and lord of Ireland. To the Mair and Baillif of our Towne of Leycestre and to either of them, gretying. For certen causes, vs and our

<sup>1</sup> clothing, livery.<sup>2</sup> Clerk of the Duchy of Lancaster.<sup>3</sup> the = they.

Counsail mouyng, We woll and straitely charge and command you that furthwith and ymmediatly vpon the recept of thiës our lettres ye not oonly put all and singuler thoos persons and goodis as well of Frenshemen, Britons<sup>1</sup> and all other the Frenche Kinges subgiettes vnder arest and sure custody in whoos handis or possession the saide goodis shalbe founde, but also restrayne and lette that noon of theym depart out of this Realme to any outward parties other in person or with their goodes, lettres or writings whatsoeuer they be but sauflly and surely cause the same to be kept till ye shalbe aduertised of our further pleasure acerteynyng vs an[d] our Counsail by your writinges what ye shall doo in thies premisses from tyme to tyme: Faile ye not with diligence to execute this our pleasure and commaundement as ye will answer to vs at your vttermost perills. And moreouer we woll and commaunde all and euery our Maiours, Shiriffes, Constables, Wardeyns of our portes, Custumers, Comptrollers, Serchours and all other our officers and feithfull subgiettes whatsoeuer they be that in your executyng thies promisses they be eyding, helping, and assisting as they will also answer at their perills. In witnes wherof we haue caused thies lettres to be sealed with our great seale the IX<sup>th</sup> day of May the XIII<sup>th</sup> yere of our reign. [Pexsall<sup>2</sup>.]

#### XXIX. *Borough Ordinances.*

Hall Book I, p. 153. [Sep. 21, 1522.] *Assize of Ale.* At the same comen hall holden there the same day before Will. Bolte then beyng meyre by the hole assent and consent of the forseyd meire and his brether the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> aldermen and of the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> electyd off the commons then beyng present in this maner and forme folowyng. Fyrste that all brewers that brew to sale make good ale and holsom and to sell ffor 1*d.* q<sup>a</sup> a galon vnder the here syffe<sup>3</sup> and to gyffe xiii galons to the dosen with Goddes good<sup>4</sup> to the same, and that no brewer<sup>5</sup> twne<sup>6</sup> owte to<sup>7</sup> that the ale tasters haue tastyd ther alis in peyne off forfetyng the fyrste tyme iiis. iiiid. the second tyme vis. viiid. etc.<sup>8</sup>

Book of Acts, p. 23. [Nov. 22, 1522.] *An Acte for horsys on the corne walle.* At the same common hall yt was enactyd that all maner

<sup>1</sup> Natives of Brittany.

<sup>2</sup> Chancery Clerk.

<sup>3</sup> Ale under the sieve, or under the hair sieve, is explained below as new ale.

<sup>4</sup> barm, yeast, as above p. 2, note 3.

<sup>5</sup> MS. repeats four words.

<sup>6</sup> twne=tun.

<sup>7</sup> to=till.

<sup>8</sup> A note of the change of assize 29 Aug. by John Wayte, "locum tenens" (of the Mayor), raising the price to 1½*d.* follows (in Latin).

of men women & chyldryn that bryngythe any horses or mayers to the markyt on the markyt day ladin with corne or other vyttell, that they after the tyme they haue vnladyn ther seid horsys, geldynges, or meres, to lede them out of the markyt place to ther innes or other place convenient, vppon peyn of euery horse geldyng or meyre takyn within the seid markyt place to the contrary, to pay to the vse of the chamber of the towne of Leycester *iid.* that to be levyed by the chamberlyns for the tyme beyng.

### XXX. *Election of Burgesses of Parliament.*

Hall Book I, p. 154. [March 27, 1523.] At a comon hall holden at Leicestre on Fryday next after the Annunciacion off Owre Blessyd Lady in the XIII<sup>th</sup> yere off the reying of owre soffran lord kyng Henrie the VIII<sup>th</sup> in the tyme of y<sup>e</sup> meralte off maistre W<sup>m</sup> Bolte at the which comon hall were chosyn burgesses for the parlament that is ffor to sey for the commons Mr W<sup>m</sup> Bolte meire and Mr Roger Wygston for the meyres breder<sup>1</sup>.

### XXXI. *Forced Loan.*

Box C, No. 436. [Ap. 18, 1523.] By thies cedulaes indented appereth as well the names as y<sup>e</sup> summes of money of the inhabitants beyng of the valu of *vli.* or *xxs.* lands and vnder the sum of *xxli.* within the seid town of Leycestre y<sup>at</sup> haue aduaunced to y<sup>e</sup> kyngs gras after *iis.* at y<sup>e</sup> *li.* by wey of lone as foloweth:—(66 names with amounts named).

*Summa totalis* of this scedule indented threscore poundes viiis. viiid. (Signed Henry Wiat.)

(To it is attached an acknowledgement from Henry and promise to repay. (English.) Sealed with the Privy Seal: imperfect.)

### XXXII. *Borough Ordinances.*

Hall Book I, p. 159. [Sep. 21, 1523.] *Backers, Brvars, & typlers & talloz chaundlers.* At the same comen hall holdyn theire the same day beffore Ric. Reynold then beyng meyre, by the hole assent & consent off the seid meire and his breder the XXIII<sup>th</sup> comburges and of all the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> electyd of the commyns then beyng present in this maner and forme foloyng.

<sup>1</sup> Preceded by "commons" struck out.

Fyrst that all bakers that bake to sale make good bred and þhollson<sup>†</sup> for mans body of good bultell<sup>1</sup> and goode temmys<sup>2</sup> and to kepe the assyse according to the statute and to make the on halfe of the bache in q<sup>a</sup> bred a<sup>3</sup> peyne of ponysment at Mr Mere pleyzure and to make fyne to y<sup>e</sup> kyng.

Allso that all brewers that brew to sale make good and holsome ale and to sell xiiii galons ffor xvi*d*.

Allso that all brewers that be comyn brewars of ale brew with non hoppis ffrom this day forth to be medyllyd<sup>4</sup> within their masshefat<sup>5</sup> non zelyngfatt<sup>6</sup> in pane ye fyrst tyme takyn with swche defawte to forfet the fyrst tyme iiis. iii*d*. the ii<sup>d</sup> tyme vis. viii*d*. and the iii<sup>d</sup> tyme xs. and this acte to be ferme and stabyll hereafter.

(Ale-testing law renewed<sup>7</sup>.)

Allso that no typpelers sell non ale with non onlawfull mesures that be onseylyd, as pottes and other, but with mesures seylyd with y<sup>e</sup> kynges seyle in peyne of fforfettyng y<sup>e</sup> fyrst tyme xii*d*. the ii<sup>d</sup> tyme iis. the iii<sup>d</sup> tyme vis. etc. and that all those typlers bryng in there mesuris onseylyd within XXI<sup>ti</sup> days to be seylyd in peyne of forfetyng, euery on takyn with defawte to lose xii*d*.

Allso that all talow chaundellers make good candyll of good stoffe and good weke<sup>8</sup> and to sell xiii*li*. for xviii*d*. and vi*li*. & dim. for ix*d*. iii*li*. & quart. ffor iiiii*d*. ob. in peyne euery tyme makyng defaute to forfet iiis. iiiii*d*. y<sup>e</sup> ii<sup>d</sup> tyme vis. viii*d*. &c.

(p. 160.) *Nota Bene. Nota for the Rydyng of the Gorge.* Allso it is enactyd at the same comon hall be the seyde meyre & hys brether the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> and the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> electyd of the commyns that this acte foloyng to be of effect and euer more to theym that shall cum hereafter, to be ferme and stable, that whosoeuer be the maister off Seynt Georgis Gylde shall cawse the George to be rydyn accordyng to the olde auncient costome, y<sup>at</sup> ys to sey betewyx Sent Georgys day and Wytsondey, except a cause reassonnable; and he or they that make deffaute in rydyng of the seyde George of y<sup>e</sup> seid maister or maisters to forfet frome the day of this acte forthward vi*li*. and that to be leuied of y<sup>e</sup> seid maister or maisters to y<sup>e</sup> behewe<sup>9</sup> & wse of the seyde gylde by the meire for the tyme beyng and the chamburleyns, and yf y<sup>e</sup> seyde meyre & chamberleyns be necligent a lachius<sup>10</sup> in levyeng of

<sup>1</sup> bultell = boulting, sifting, degree of fineness.

<sup>2</sup> temmys = sifting.

<sup>3</sup> a = on.

<sup>4</sup> medyllyd = mixed.

<sup>5</sup> brewing-vat. See Jamieson's Dictionary *s.v.* mask-fat.

<sup>6</sup> See *gyle*, in *Nottingham Records*, p. 490; the gyle-vat, wort-vat, or fermenting-vessel; guilevat is still used in Yorkshire. The 3 above should be g.

<sup>7</sup> Cf. the law of Nov. 1520, p. 16.

<sup>8</sup> wick.

<sup>9</sup> behoof.

<sup>10</sup> a lachius = or neglectful.

y<sup>e</sup> seid forfet, that then the meire to forfet xxvis. vii<sup>d</sup>. and cyther chamburleyn to forfet vis. vii<sup>d</sup>. and to be peyd to the profet of the same gyld<sup>1</sup>.

Moreouer it is agreyd at the same acte that all forfettes mayd by the masters that haue bene seyth<sup>2</sup> the laste tyme that the George was ryden shall be browght in and payd to the behowe and profet of the same gyld of euery maister beyng behynd xxvis. vii<sup>d</sup>.

[*Watermen.*] Allso that no waterman cary no burne<sup>3</sup> apou the Sonday withowte cawse resonable in peyne of imprisonment and to forfet so ofte tymes makyng defawte [fine omitted].

[*Swynemarket.*] Allso it is agreyd that the Swynes market shall be keppeyd from this day forth in the Parchement Lane and nomore in the Hy Stret which [is] in the Est Yate.

*For Bakers.* Allso that all bakers that carey into y<sup>e</sup> cuntrey shall bryng their bred a horsebacke to y<sup>e</sup> meyr or to y<sup>e</sup> wardens of y<sup>e</sup> crafte and their to be weyed and to be sene that it be abyll past<sup>4</sup> and †holson‡: in peyne of forfet y<sup>e</sup> i<sup>st</sup> tyme xi<sup>d</sup>. ii<sup>d</sup> tyme xx<sup>d</sup>. iii<sup>d</sup> tyme iiis. iii<sup>d</sup>. etc.<sup>5</sup>

(p. 161.) *Nota for non appayrauns at y<sup>e</sup> commyn hall.* Allso att y<sup>e</sup> same comon hall from that day forth that euery man beyng absent for<sup>6</sup> the common hall trewly to paye the olde forfet<sup>7</sup> withowte a cawse resonable, that is to sey of euery on of XXIII<sup>ti</sup> xi<sup>d</sup>. and of euery on of XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> vi<sup>d</sup>. and trewly to be leuyed by y<sup>e</sup> chamburlens.

### XXXIII. Chamberlain's Account.

Unnumbered roll. [Sep. 29, 1524—Sep. 29, 1525.] *Rents...* £17. 11s. 8½<sup>d</sup>...*Receipts...* £27. 6s. 6½<sup>d</sup>.

*Fees with other payments.* Payd to Mr Meyre for expenses don on the record Justices off y<sup>e</sup> peise and coronars with other in y<sup>e</sup> tyme of sessions...13s. 4<sup>d</sup>....sweping the markett plase and y<sup>e</sup> netes market ...8s. 4<sup>d</sup>....Waytes lyueres 16s....for y<sup>e</sup> mendyng of Tho. Brayfellds mase 4s....rydyng to my lord Brutenell<sup>8</sup> for the election of y<sup>e</sup> meyre 3s. 4<sup>d</sup>....to London to Mr Swyllyngton<sup>9</sup> for y<sup>e</sup> seyde matter to haue

<sup>1</sup> Cf. II. 293, 355. Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 207; Throsby, p. 242; Kelly, *Notices of Leicester*, pp. 37—48.

<sup>2</sup> seyth=since.

<sup>3</sup> burne=?barm, see Wright, *Dial. Dict.* The explanation *water* given above in II. 295 is incorrect.

<sup>4</sup> abyll past=proper paste.

<sup>5</sup> A lower fine than that on bakers for the town, see Nov. 1520, p. 16.

<sup>6</sup> for=from.

<sup>7</sup> II. 293—4.

<sup>8</sup> Chief Justice of Common Pleas, and a commissioner in the Duchy to survey lands in Leicestershire.

<sup>9</sup> Recorder.

his cowncell 10s....in reward for kepyng swine oute of y<sup>e</sup> Est Yate on the markett day 4*d*. Item p[a]yd for Charkecoll for Mr Mere and his brethern at Corpus Christi Hall diuerse tymes 7*d*. Item payd for too lodes off wod and caryeng of y<sup>e</sup> same to v places of y<sup>e</sup> towne to make fyres for y<sup>e</sup> tryumfe at the takyng of the French Kyng<sup>1</sup> 4s. 8*d*. Item payd for bred and ale to y<sup>e</sup> same v fyres 2s. 6*d*. Summa £19. 7s. 9½*d*.

*Expenses of wyne*....3 galones of gasken wyne...to my lord Hastyngs 4s....to the Kyngs auditor...to the lord deyne of Newarke...to my lord of Shrosbury....spend apoun the Commissioners at Corpus Christi Hall....2 gall. and one quarte at y<sup>e</sup> v bonefyres...£1. 16s. 4*d*.

*Reparacions and emcions for the same*....Slates etc....mending of the stocks twyse at the Berehyll Crosse<sup>2</sup>...at the Northe yate...at the South yate...the locke of the meyre hall dore...the Cheker in y<sup>e</sup> hall ...for an ewyspoll<sup>3</sup> id....for a kerbe<sup>4</sup> and a standar'<sup>5</sup> off a well and the feyng<sup>6</sup> of the same...a locke and a key off the wycket in y<sup>e</sup> yate at y<sup>e</sup> West Brygge 1s. 4*d*.

Sum £2. 2s. 2*d*.

*Dekeis*...£3. 2s. 3*d*.

(The Chamberlains owe the township 5s. 1*d*. paid.)

#### XXXIV. *Accounts of Corpus Christi Gild.*

Box 7, No. 186. [Sep. 29, 1525—Sep. 29, 1526.] Printed in full in *North's Chronicle of the Church of St Martin*, pp. 211—216. Rents, obits, priests' wages : Rob. Hawar and Roger Gillot being wardens of the gild.

#### XXXV. *Lawyer retained for the town.*

Hall Book I, p. 191. [Aug. 11, 1529.] Memorandum that at a comen hall holden at Corpus Cristi Hall the xi<sup>th</sup> day off August in the xxi<sup>ti</sup> yere of the rayng of our Soverayng lorde kynge Henry the viii<sup>th</sup> hyt is a stablysshyd & agreide by Rog. Gyllot mayer and other of his brether namyd the xxiiii<sup>ti</sup> Burgenses and the xlviii<sup>ti</sup> in the name of the holle body of the towne to gyve vnto John Beaumaunt<sup>7</sup> gentillmon vis. viii*d*. ffee to ansuer in suche causses as the towne shall nede & requyre.

<sup>1</sup> At the Battle of Pavia, Feb. 24, 1525, released March 17, 1526.

<sup>2</sup> Outside the Eastgate.

<sup>3</sup> eaves-pole.

<sup>4</sup> curb of a well, see N.E.D. curb 8.

<sup>5</sup> standard.

<sup>6</sup> feighing, cleansing.

<sup>7</sup> He became Recorder of Leicester in 1537 and afterwards Master of the Rolls. See D.N.B.

XXXVI. *Borough Ordinances.*

Hall Book I, p. 192. [Sep. 21, 1529.] <sup>1</sup>*The act for theym that refusse to be oon of the mayers brether. Contenuacio.* At a comen hall holden at Leyceiter on Sent Mathew day the XXI yere of the rayng of kyng Henry the VIII it was agreed enactyd & stablysshede perpetually to endure by the holle assent consent & agrement of Rog. Gyllothan beyng mayer of the seid towne and his brethern comburgyessez of the same town namyd the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> and the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> that yf ther be anny of the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> electyd chossen and ablysshede<sup>2</sup> by the mayer for the tyme beyng & his brethern comburgonssez to be oon of the seid comburgonssez and refusse yt, that than he or they so dysobeyng and will not supply the romm, to forfett xli. to the chamber of the town of Leyceiter & yt to be leyvyd by the chamberleyns ffor the tyme beyng.

XXXVII. *Chamberlains' Accounts.*

Unnumbered roll. [Sep. 29, 1528—Sep. 29, 1529.] *Rents...* £17. 17s. 2½d.

*The comptes of the Shyppes markett and oder charges.* (Farm of the sheepmarket £3. 16s. 4d.) Chapman's gild fees...for a dotyd<sup>3</sup> aple tree...8d....for 14 pales that were of the pynfald in the market stedde 1s....

Sum total charge £31. 7s. 9d.

*Rent paid out...* 16s. 11d.

*Fees with expences...* Item payd to my lord Juge and his clerks for syttyng at the gayll delyvery 8s. 4d....to Mr Meyre for expences don of Mr Recorder and Justice of peace and the Crownars at iii quarter sessions 20s....to the undersheriff for stoppyng the processe agaynst the Crownars 6s. 8d....Hassands wyeffe for resigning her leese of the shyppe pennes £1. 13s. 4d....to Mr Mountegu<sup>4</sup> for to be gode bee twene Mr Maire and Mr Bayly for callyng the courte 3s. 4d....to Mr Roger Wygston...an hogyshed of wyne for beyng goode in the mater concernyng the towne 40s....to their attorney in the Chauncery 1s. 8d....for the brefaste made at this accompte 6s. 8d....

Sum £23. 18s. 0d.

<sup>1</sup> Also in Book of Acts, p. 34, with this note: "This acte was comfyrmyd at a common hall holdyn at Leicester the XIX<sup>t</sup> day of Marche in the XXXVII<sup>t</sup> yere of the reigne of our soueraigne lord kyng Henry the VIII<sup>t</sup> in the tyme of meraltye of Mr Robt. Cotton by the holle consent of all the seid hall." See below No. LXXXVII.

<sup>2</sup> *sic*, for established, as in Book of Acts.

<sup>3</sup> decayed (probably sold for firewood).

<sup>4</sup> Probably Edward Montagu, afterwards judge.

*Expenses in wyne....* Lord Hastings...Mr Ratcliff<sup>1</sup>...my lord of Shrowesbery<sup>2</sup>...King's auditors at the castle...my lord Markas<sup>3</sup> at my lord Deanes...Roger Wigston...Lady Hungerford<sup>4</sup>...Mr Sacheverell<sup>5</sup>...2 pikes and wine to Mr Ratcliffe<sup>1</sup> at the abbey...Mr Archedekon<sup>6</sup> when he preched at Seynt Martyns (etc.) £1. 12s. 8d.

*Reparacions with Emptions.* (8½ rod pointing work 12s. 9d. ½ rod hyllyng work<sup>7</sup> 3s.)...thatch...painting the bredwayght 8d.... walling the pinfold in the market stead...castyng a cawsey at the Cowehy yate 9s. 8d....38 sydes of shyppe pennes 7s. 4d., 12 polles for fecte stakys 2s. 6d. £4. os. 5½d.

*Decays....* £3. 12s. 8d.

*Total discharge.* £34. os. 7½d. The town owes £2. 12s. 10½d.

### XXXVIII. *Election of Burgesses of Parliament.*

Box C, No. 437. [Sep. 30. 1529.] Indenture (in English) between Thomas Bett Mayor of Leicester and Will. Wigston the younger, Will. Wigston the elder, Ric. Reynold, Thos. Burton, John Waze, Thos. Cotton, John Rede, Ric. Byeston, Will. Colt, John Westous, Rog. Gyllot, Will. Tebb, Rob. Davye, Nic. Reynold, John Barton, and Christopher Clowghe "comburgensses" of Leicester, on the one part and Roger Ratclyff sheriff of Leicestershire of the other—witnessing that the foresaid comburgensses have elected and chosen Thos. Brokesby and Rob. Harwar two comburgensses of the town to be burgesses of the Parliament, to be held at London Nov. 3. (Sheriff's seal, obliterated.)

### XXXIX. *Assize of Beer and Candle.*

Hall Book I, p. 199. [Nov. 18, 1530.] (Brewers to give 12 gallons for 15d. Small ale ½d. a gall.)

[*Candle.*] Also yit is inactyd y<sup>at</sup> y<sup>er</sup> schall no talloschanlar schall nott sell no kandyll aboffe 1d. ob. y<sup>e</sup> li. nott from y<sup>is</sup> day vnto Myghyllmase daye nexte cumyng, in forfetyng vis. viiij. and also y<sup>at</sup> y<sup>e</sup> seid schandellares sell not candyll be wolle sale dossyns nor halffe dossyns into y<sup>e</sup> contre exsepe lysans of y<sup>e</sup> maere, in forfetyng vis. viiij.

### XL. *Early spring-flowers for the Mayor.*

Hall Book I, p. 220. [March 27, 1530.] Be ytt hade in mynd the xxvii<sup>th</sup> dae of March in y<sup>e</sup> xxi yere of our sufferentt lorde kyng

<sup>1</sup> Probably Roger, sheriff of the county in 1529.

<sup>2</sup> See above p. 8, note 6.

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Grey, 2nd Marquis of Dorset.

<sup>4</sup> The mother of George 3rd baron Hastings.

<sup>5</sup> Probably Sir Richard, stepfather of Lord Hastings. Thompson, *Leicester* p. 226.

<sup>6</sup> Ric. Mawdeley, archdeacon of Leicester.

<sup>7</sup> roofing-work.



Henry the VIII<sup>th</sup> y<sup>at</sup> y<sup>er</sup> was broghtt to Tho. Bett y<sup>en</sup> beyng maere of Leicester hawtherne budytt furth, baene floares, and a cullum-bell flour<sup>1</sup>, theses was broghtt to hym.

#### XL I. *Borough Rental.*

Box M, No. 254. [c. 1530.] (Closely similar to the list of rents given above in IX.)

#### XL II. *Bond of Apprenticeship.*

Box J, No. 438. [Feb. 23, 1531.] This indenture made y<sup>e</sup> xxiiii<sup>th</sup> day of Februarie, in y<sup>e</sup> raeue of our Soverand lorde Kyng Henry y<sup>e</sup> VIII<sup>th</sup> y<sup>e</sup> xxii<sup>th</sup>, wyttvnes y<sup>at</sup> John Harbarde late of Truuystun<sup>2</sup>, dosse bynd hym selfe prentes to Wyll<sup>m</sup> Tebbe y<sup>en</sup> beyng Maere of Leicester to y<sup>e</sup> bakares krafte for y<sup>e</sup> terme of vii jaere and y<sup>e</sup> viii<sup>th</sup> jaere gorneman<sup>3</sup>; also y<sup>e</sup> seid Wyll<sup>m</sup> dosse bynde him be y<sup>is</sup> indenture to gyff to y<sup>e</sup> seid Jhon for y<sup>e</sup> terme of vii jaere euery jaere viii<sup>d</sup>. and y<sup>e</sup> viii<sup>th</sup> jaere euery weke vii<sup>d</sup>. and to be dobull araede bothe for y<sup>e</sup> hallyday and y<sup>e</sup> warke daye att hys cumyng furthe, and to be kepyd as a prentes schud be, y<sup>at</sup> is to saye maete and drynk, hosse and shoys, lyllyn<sup>4</sup>, wollyn, and hys krafte to be toghtt him and nothyng to be hyd frome hym y<sup>er</sup>of: also y<sup>e</sup> seid John dosse bynd hymselfe be thys indenture to be trw saruand for thoes jaeres and y<sup>at</sup> he schall nott stelle none of is Masters gudes, nott be vii<sup>d</sup>. in the jaere, and y<sup>at</sup> he schall nott wse no gamyng, nor he schall nott make no promys of wedloke exsep is Master gyff hym leffe, nor he schall nott bye nor sell exsep ytt be for is masters profytt, and he schall kyepe is masters consyll in all maner of thynges y<sup>at</sup> is lefull. In wyttines here of Wyll<sup>m</sup> Tebbe, Thomas Kattelyn baelle<sup>5</sup>, John Westes, Thomas Bette, Justes of y<sup>e</sup> paesse, Thomas Howytt, Wyll<sup>m</sup> Fowollar, Klarke with other mo.

#### XL III. *Chamberlains' Accounts.*

Unnumbered roll. [1530—1.] *Rents*...£17. 16s. 10d. *Receipts*.... Shepes markt £3. 6s. 8d....for a forfett...of 2 buchers for y<sup>er</sup> forfetes...for 6 stone laede<sup>6</sup> 3s. 6d....old wod sold...sklates...reseuyd of Master Maere *gli.* off such mone<sup>7</sup> as is reseuyd be a comyn assent off all y<sup>e</sup> masters and the commynte for the contentyng off y<sup>e</sup> arreregis off ye towne....Total £19. 10s. 2d.

*Summa totalis le charge.* £37. 5s.

<sup>1</sup> hawthorn budded forth, bean-flowers, and a columbine flower.

<sup>2</sup> Turweston near Brackley.

<sup>3</sup> journeyman.

<sup>4</sup> linen.

<sup>5</sup> bailiff.

<sup>6</sup> lead.

<sup>7</sup> money.

*Rents paid out...* 18s. 3d....*Fees...* dynner att y<sup>e</sup> quarter schessuns att Ester 6s. 8d....Waetes gownes 26s....dynnar at Western coworte 8s. 7d....stwarde for kyeping y<sup>e</sup> same coworte 1s....mending off y<sup>e</sup> towne saele 8d....off the baeme and y<sup>e</sup> skoles<sup>1</sup> 4d....ortheryng off y<sup>e</sup> legaces 3s. 4d....Kynges auduter (wine). Item for an arro and y<sup>e</sup> 3aed<sup>2</sup> 4d. Sir Will. Kyngistun (wine)...(wine) to my lorde stward... to my lorde Hastyngs<sup>3</sup> att y<sup>e</sup> stokeyng<sup>4</sup>...for symneles...to my lorde Hastyngs y<sup>e</sup> same daye y<sup>e</sup> george was ryddun<sup>5</sup>...to my lade Hungarforthe<sup>6</sup> att y<sup>e</sup> cumyng off hur to y<sup>e</sup> Newarke (wine)...to Mr Roger Wigistun...my lorde of Huntyngdun<sup>7</sup> at hys cumyng downe frome Lundun at the hye crosse...to my lord off Huntyngdun and my lord Mowontyew<sup>8</sup> 3s. 4d....(wine) to my lorde of Lyncolne<sup>9</sup>...a quear off paper for Mr Macires clark 2d....to my lade prynces pleares<sup>10</sup> 3s. 4d....Master Harward wen he wentt to y<sup>e</sup> parlyment att after Krystummes 40s....to y<sup>e</sup> same Mr Harward on trenytesundaies even towards hys costes off y<sup>e</sup> parlymentt 20s....(late chamberlains) for cleryng off there laste fote off y<sup>er</sup> a cowntt £4. 16s. 11½d....Mr Wardward off y<sup>e</sup> mone y<sup>at</sup> was leuyd be y<sup>e</sup> assentt off Master Macire and hys brether and y<sup>e</sup> commente toworde hys charges be Will. Fowolar £4....£16. 9s. 5½d.

*Reparacions...* to make a stere att y<sup>e</sup> maeres howose...a stryke off plaster and y<sup>e</sup> workyng 7d. (torching, and clay)...pauyng of mydos herd<sup>11</sup> 6s....6 planks and a crust<sup>12</sup> for mending y<sup>e</sup> bryg in Humberistun gate 5s....tymber for y<sup>e</sup> swynnards<sup>13</sup> howose...£6. 7s. 2½d.

*Decays...* £4. 3s. 9d.

*Summa totalis le discharge* £42. 7s. 8d.

#### XLIV. *Borough Ordinances.*

Hall Book I, p. 289. [Nov. 17, 1531.] [*Suits between freemen.*] At a comen hall holden at Leycester on Sent Hw day the XXIII<sup>th</sup> yere of y<sup>e</sup> rayng of Kyng Henry the VIII<sup>th</sup> it was agred, enactyd and

<sup>1</sup> scales.

<sup>2</sup> This item, an arrowhead, or "a broad arrow," begins to appear regularly in the accounts. It was rendered to the king for the Butt Close, as appears from later accounts.

<sup>3</sup> Francis, 4th baron Hastings, son of George.

<sup>4</sup> stocking, probably Lammas Day when the burgesses turned their stock on to the stubble.

<sup>5</sup> See above, p. 25.

<sup>6</sup> Hungerford, the Earl of Huntingdon's mother.

<sup>7</sup> George, 3rd baron Hastings, was made Earl of Huntingdon, 1529.

<sup>8</sup> Probably Henry Pole, Lord Montacute, whose daughter married Francis, Lord Hastings.

<sup>9</sup> Bishop of Lincoln.

<sup>10</sup> players of princess Mary.

<sup>11</sup> Meadow's yard.

<sup>12</sup> A plank cut from the outside of a tree-trunk. N.E.D. The examples are all in connection with bridge-making.

<sup>13</sup> swineherd.

stablysshede perpetually to endure, by y<sup>e</sup> hole assentt and consent & agreementt of Nycolys Rennold then beyng maere of the seid towone and hys brether combwrges of the same towone namyd y<sup>e</sup> XXIII<sup>ti</sup> and the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> att<sup>1</sup> there schall no man beyng fre man of y<sup>e</sup> same towon su another freman, in forfetyng<sup>2</sup> xls. furthe of y<sup>e</sup> maerys coworte exsepe the maere gyff hym leffe.

[Feb. 23, 1532.] [*Price of the freedom.*] (Agreed in the same form as above) thatt there schall noman enter into the schapmans gyld but the<sup>3</sup> schall paye [eche]<sup>4</sup> yere xs. within the yere be the dyscressun off the maere ffor the tyme beyng and the chamberlyns & y<sup>at</sup> the seid chamberlyns stand char[g]lyd with the wole monne<sup>5</sup>.

#### XLV. *The Shoemakers' agreement with the Borough.*

Hall Book I, p. 293. [1531—2.] Memorandum y<sup>at</sup> itt is agred before Nich. Rennold then beyng maiere of y<sup>e</sup> towone off Leicester by y<sup>e</sup> assentt & consentt of y<sup>e</sup> wardens & all y<sup>e</sup> compenne<sup>6</sup> of the jornemen of schomakers within y<sup>e</sup> towone of Leicester y<sup>at</sup> y<sup>e</sup><sup>3</sup> schall from hensforwarde, sech tyme as y<sup>e</sup><sup>3</sup> schall make ther acownte, to gyff Mr Maere for y<sup>e</sup> tyme beyng knolege yf ytt plesse hym to here there acownte, & moreouer the<sup>3</sup> do promys to gyff yerely to y<sup>e</sup> Austyn Frears in Leicester for all the brethern & sisterne to be prayde for in redy mone xs. & y<sup>at</sup> to be payde at ii tymes in the yere besyde y<sup>e</sup> offeryng dayes afore vsed ; farthermore y<sup>e</sup> wardens & all y<sup>e</sup> compenne off jornemen dothe promysse to y<sup>e</sup> seid maiere & to is successors maieres off y<sup>e</sup> towone off Leicester y<sup>at</sup> y<sup>e</sup><sup>3</sup> schall nott trubbull nor..... [torn].

#### XLVI. *Surgeon examined for an accusation of seditious words.*

Hall Book I, p. 468. [March 27, 1532.] Memorandum y<sup>at</sup> I Robt. Molton Sorgan com afore John Barton mayre of the towne [of] Leicester & Tho. Catlyn belle<sup>7</sup> of the same towne the XXVII day of Marche in the rayne of Kyng Hare the VIII the XXIII<sup>ti</sup>, and there denyd a farther<sup>8</sup> wordes againste Will. Gybysson of the same towne, inholder ; the wyches words was thes, at<sup>1</sup> the maire and ys breder schud not set no syes of ys pot<sup>9</sup>, nor the kyng nother ; and the seid Will. seyde the wardule<sup>10</sup> schud mend : but a lytil wyll the kyng

<sup>1</sup> that.

<sup>2</sup> in pain of forfeiting.

<sup>3</sup> the = they.

<sup>4</sup> omitted.

<sup>6</sup> company.

<sup>7</sup> belle = bailiff.

<sup>5</sup> whole money.

<sup>8</sup> ? sarthen, certain.

<sup>9</sup> no assize on his pot : resisting the assize of beer ?

<sup>10</sup> world.

luduyd<sup>1</sup> my lade hane<sup>2</sup> and schold [be] in prosprete; and theys words I deyenarye<sup>3</sup> before John Bartton, Tho. Skatlang, John Wase, Tamas Cotton, Joh. Rode, Joh. West, Rog. Guyllat, Tho. Bell, Nich. Rennold, Cryster Clught, Rafe Garset, Rob. Phyllypes. (Molton and the above-named append their signatures.)

#### XLVII. *Chamberlains' Accounts.*

Unnumbered roll. [1531—2.] *Rents*...£17. 14s. 10d....*Chypis*<sup>4</sup> *markyt, chapmans gylde, and other fynys*....reseuyd of Gorge Vyllares for a fyne of a howose at Thrussington...for wyllows at y<sup>e</sup> Cowhey...a nolde howose at y<sup>e</sup> water syde...of Mr Cloghtt for y<sup>e</sup> redymyng y<sup>e</sup> rydyng of y<sup>e</sup> Gorge<sup>5</sup> 46s....£15. 9s. 5d.

*Summa totalis charge* £33. 4s. 3d.

(*Rents paid out.*) *Fees*...Mr Maiere for kyeping 3 sessions 20s....to y<sup>e</sup> chambarlyns our predissores for y<sup>e</sup> fowote of y<sup>er</sup> a cowonte £4...y<sup>e</sup> kyngis saruand for reqweryng y<sup>e</sup> parlimentt 3s. 4d....to y<sup>e</sup> kynges pleares 3s. 4d....my lady prynses pleares 3s....kyeping of y<sup>e</sup> obytt of Sir Ric. Yuksley<sup>6</sup> at Sente Margytts 1s. 10d....wetts<sup>7</sup> gowons 18s. 8d....maieres clarke for making y<sup>is</sup> a cowontt and rental 4s. 10d....£26. 6s. 11d.

*Wine*...Malsey to my lorde of Huntynghdon...Mr Sacheuerell<sup>8</sup>...kynges auditor...ye brode harro and y<sup>e</sup> hed<sup>9</sup> 4d....Mr Ratclyffe...gaskeyn wyne...Mr Prouynschall<sup>10</sup> at y<sup>e</sup> chapter...my lorde of Huntynghdon and my lade is neysse<sup>11</sup> in wyne, swger and kakes 4s. 2d.—19s. 6d.

*Dekys*<sup>12</sup>...£4. 17s. 9d.

*Reparacions*...for making of y<sup>e</sup> iiiii<sup>th</sup> mases of syluer nw 6s. 8d....mending y<sup>e</sup> brede weghtis 1s. 8d....for a skyn to kyfor<sup>13</sup> them withall 4d....4 quere of paper to make a new boke 8d....a skyn to kyfer<sup>13</sup> ytt withall 4d....for making y<sup>e</sup> seid boke 3d....making y<sup>e</sup> kage<sup>14</sup> 21s. 4d....paere of henges to the seid kage 1s. 8d....a loke 2 stapuls and a ryng 1s....a lode of claye to under pyn y<sup>e</sup> kage...mending of y<sup>e</sup> nyghtt mase 2d....entre of y<sup>e</sup> acsun of Rob. Payer 6d....mending Mr Maeires mase 2s....lode of thornes to Burles gardyn 1s. 2d....for hegging of y<sup>e</sup> same thornys 2d....mending y<sup>e</sup> kowhey-

<sup>1</sup> loved.

<sup>2</sup> Anne Boleyn.

<sup>3</sup> deny or deraign.

<sup>4</sup> Sheeps.

<sup>5</sup> See above p. 25, note 1.

<sup>6</sup> Elkesley, see p. 7, note 3.

<sup>7</sup> waits.

<sup>8</sup> See above p. 28, note 5.

<sup>9</sup> See above p. 30, note 2.

<sup>10</sup> Superintendent of religious houses in a province.

<sup>11</sup> niece.

<sup>12</sup> Decays, see note above p. 10.

<sup>13</sup> cover.

<sup>14</sup> lock-up for petty malefactors.

gate 6d....tymber to undersett y<sup>e</sup> Northe gate...for wrytynge...for making y<sup>e</sup> skafolde...£3. 19s. 4½d.

*Sum of discharge* £37. Os. 1½d.

Et sic dicta villata debet claro dictis camerariis £3. 15s. 10½d. quam quidem summam Tho. Fox et Ric. Brisbon successores sui soluerunt dictis camerariis et sic quieti.

#### XLVIII. Borough Ordinances.

Hall Book I, p. 296. [Nov. 22, 1532.] *Fine for being late at Common Hall.* Att a comyn hall holden att Leycester the xxii<sup>th</sup> day off Nouember in the raine off Kyng Henry the viii<sup>th</sup> the xxiiii<sup>th</sup> itt was agred, enactyd & stablysshede perpetually to endure by the hole assentt, consentt & agrementt off Jhon Barton then beyng mayere off the seid towone and his brethern & comburgyss of y<sup>e</sup> same towone namyd the xxiiii<sup>th</sup> and y<sup>e</sup> xlvi<sup>th</sup> that yf [it] happens y<sup>at</sup> ony off the brether cum to late to y<sup>e</sup> comyn hall with resunnabull warnyng for to paye *vid.* [to] y<sup>e</sup> brether, yff he cum as long as y<sup>ere</sup> is y<sup>e</sup> syttyng; and yff he cum after, for to paye *xiiid.*; & in lyke kasse yff y<sup>er</sup> cum ony off the xlvi<sup>th</sup> cum<sup>1</sup> to late, for to paye *iiid.* as long as y<sup>e</sup> maiere is syttyng, & yff y<sup>e2</sup> cum after he be up, for to paye *vid.*

[*Brewers.*] Also hytt is tyn† enactyd y<sup>at</sup> no brwar y<sup>at</sup> brwys to sell, sell aboffe *iid.* the gallan & sche schall typill be no mesure butt to sell be y<sup>e</sup> dossyn & y<sup>e</sup> halfe dossyn, so y<sup>at</sup> y<sup>e2</sup> sel nott be the pennyworth nor y<sup>e</sup> aupurth<sup>3</sup> in forfetyng y<sup>e</sup> fyrst tyme *iiis.* *iiiiid.*, y<sup>e</sup> seccund tyme—*vis.* *viiiid.*, y<sup>e</sup> thyrde tyme—*xs.* and so to remene in warde to<sup>4</sup> y<sup>e</sup> monne be paede.

[*Fine Ale.*] Also it is enactyd thatt y<sup>e2</sup> y<sup>at</sup> brw fyne halle sell [not] aboffe *iiiiid.* y<sup>e</sup> gallan thatt is to saye a pynte a haupenne, a quarte a penne, a pottyll *iid.*, a gallan *iiiiid.*, and braede to drynk ytt withall, in forfetyng y<sup>e</sup> fyrste tyme *xiiid.*, y<sup>e</sup> nexte tyme *iis.*, the t[h]urde tyme *iiis.* *iiiiid.*, to y<sup>e</sup> chamber off y<sup>e</sup> towone.

Ibid. p. 290. [April 5, 1533.] [*Riding the George.*] Item yt is agred be the wole assentt off y<sup>e</sup> xxiiii<sup>th</sup> the v daye off Apryll in y<sup>e</sup> reene of Kyng Henry y<sup>e</sup> viii<sup>th</sup> y<sup>e</sup> xxiii thatt Master Chrystofer Clughtt schud nott ryde y<sup>e</sup> Gorge, nott y<sup>ys</sup> yere, for dyucres considraerasuns, so y<sup>at</sup> y<sup>e</sup> holde hacted<sup>5</sup> schall stand in ful strenghtt as he hasse done aforetyme.

<sup>1</sup> superfluous.

<sup>2</sup> they.

<sup>3</sup> halfpennyworth.

<sup>4</sup> till.

<sup>5</sup> the old enactment, see above, pp. 24-5.

Hall Book I, p. 304. [May 17, 1533.] [*Brewers and Tipplers.*] This akete<sup>1</sup> made y<sup>e</sup> xvii day of May †in† y<sup>at</sup> no brwar y<sup>at</sup> is a comyn bruar sell aboffe a penne y<sup>e</sup> gallan in forfetyng euere tyme so doying<sup>2</sup> iiis. iiiid.; and y<sup>e</sup> typlar y<sup>at</sup> typpulls schall selle from y<sup>is</sup> day of proclymasun for penne and fardying stale hale, & y<sup>at</sup> sche sell ytt be saelemesure<sup>3</sup>, in forfetyng euere tyme so doying iiis. iiiid. from y<sup>is</sup> day: and sche haue hurre mesures made betw[e]ne y<sup>is</sup> & myssumar nexte cumyng and y<sup>e4</sup> y<sup>at</sup> brw for to sell with[in] y<sup>e</sup> howosse sell not abouffe iid. y<sup>e</sup> gallan, in forfetyng euere tyme so doying xiiid. and y<sup>at</sup> y<sup>e4</sup> provyde for y<sup>e</sup> selyd meswres betw[e]ne this and myssumar so y<sup>at</sup> y<sup>e4</sup> sell from y<sup>is</sup> day of proclimasun for iid. y<sup>e</sup> gallan.

Ibid. [Nov. 20, 1533.] [*Brewers and Chandlers*<sup>5</sup>.] Att a comyn hall (etc.) y<sup>at</sup> no bruar y<sup>at</sup> brwis to sell as a comyn brwar y<sup>at</sup> sche schall nott sell abuffe id. ob. y<sup>e</sup> gallan and y<sup>at</sup> no brwar y<sup>at</sup> brwis to sell in huire howose schall nott sell abuffe iiid. the gallan, and thatt no talloschanlar sell no candyll abuffe id. ob. y<sup>e</sup> li., & y<sup>at</sup> y<sup>e4</sup> karre<sup>6</sup> none into y<sup>e</sup> cuntre exsep y<sup>e4</sup> haske y<sup>e</sup> maiere[s] leffe, butt for to se y<sup>e</sup> towone sarfeid<sup>7</sup>.

#### XLIX. *Examinations for seditious words.*

Hall Book I, p. 309. [Dec. 14, 1533.] Memorandum that on the xiiii<sup>th</sup> day of December in the xxv<sup>th</sup> yere of our souerand lord kyng Henry the VIII<sup>th</sup> Raff Churlis off Monstull<sup>8</sup> in the counte off Leycester baker was sworne & examynd on the holy eyvangillyst by hym bodely tochyd in the presens &...[of] Cristoper Cloghe meyr off Leyceter, Rog. Wygston esquier off the kynges most honorable consell<sup>9</sup> & oyer justess off peys of the meyr's breder within the same towne apon (certain)<sup>10</sup> sydisiouse wordes ther leyd vnto his charg by (Mr)<sup>10</sup> meyr that he schuld speyk vnto Tho. Catlyn (bailiff)<sup>10</sup> of the sayd towne as folowyth: on Satterday next<sup>11</sup> in a place callid Geynysborow chambre<sup>12</sup> standyng on the seyde markett place called Satterday Markett in Leycester afforseyd. And fyrst the sayd Raffe Charlys sayd vnto the bayle, "Mr Bayle shall we nott bryng no whyte bred into the towne ageynst this Crystomas?" the sayd bayle answerd & sayd, "None shuld be broght in, it was orderd to the

<sup>1</sup> akete=act.

<sup>2</sup> i.e. infringing the order.

<sup>3</sup> sealed measure.

<sup>4</sup> they.

<sup>5</sup> The assizes of beer and candle are entered annually and where they contain nothing unusual will not be noted.

<sup>6</sup> carry.

<sup>7</sup> served.

<sup>8</sup> ? Mountsorrel.

<sup>9</sup> of the Duchy of Lancaster.

<sup>10</sup> illegible.

<sup>11</sup> for last.

<sup>12</sup> First mention of this prison. See Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 250.

contrary," and ther the sayd Raffe sayd, "Yf the bakers [of] the contrey broght in no bred ther shuld mony<sup>1</sup> within the towne want bred, wherfor we intend to bryng in bred." The sayd bayle then sayd, "Yf you bryng in any bred yor horsis shalbe sett in the castyll & you shalbe puneshid." "Well the[n]," sayd Raff, "yf we bryng in [no?] bred ther is a C persons within the sayd towne wyll (fetch) in the bakers of the contrey for want off bred." But he forder deposed that there was neyuer a townsmen that euer gaffe hym any comfort so to saye these wordes. Item the seruant off the sayd Raffe, callid John Durrant, examynd & sworne—sayd on the Tusday next beffore wyttnes Wyll. and John Smyth of Leycester that the bakers wold bryng in bred (ay)enste Crystomas & yf the bayle wold lett, then the<sup>2</sup> wold bryng C lovvis, & stavis in their baskettes to deffend them, wiche were but laddes & boyse: and these wordes the<sup>2</sup> said of there owne myndes & forder...& that the...[illegible and torn].

Ibid. p. 314. [May 22, 1534.] This byll wytttneseid thatt y<sup>e</sup> XXII day of May in the raine off kyng Henry y<sup>e</sup> VIII the XXVI Rycharde Blydworth, y<sup>e</sup> sun of John Blydworthe, within the counte of Darbe, cum to Leicester and y<sup>er</sup> speke wordes consarnyng the mesure of egys, and there he seid y<sup>at</sup> he speke nothyng butt as he harde in other places, y<sup>at</sup> there schulde be schych wordes spekeyng abrode in y<sup>e</sup> cuntre; & y<sup>e</sup> seid Rycharde made no forther reporte. (Examine signs.)

#### L. *Rentals of Corpus Christi Gild.*

Box 7, No. 181. [Sep. 29, 1533—Sep. 29, 1534.] Divided into parishes—St Martin's, St Margaret's, St Peter's, All Saints, Barkby: chief rents pertaining to the gild.

Box 7, No. 182. [Sep. 29, 1534—Sep. 29, 1535<sup>3</sup>.] Tenements let by indenture...at the lytyll North Bryg, a garden place within y<sup>e</sup> north yate...callyd the Croune...in y<sup>e</sup> parchement lane,...within y<sup>e</sup> est yate...withowt y<sup>e</sup> est yate...in y<sup>e</sup> Roundyll...in Galltregate...in y<sup>e</sup> Settardey markyt...for shop in y<sup>e</sup> market...gardyn on y<sup>e</sup> towne wall...by y<sup>e</sup> kanke wel...in y<sup>e</sup> hey stret,...serten lond in y<sup>e</sup> south felde...for ten leys<sup>4</sup>...

Sum of the rentes at will £20. 10s. 7d.

*Chief rents*....a house callyd the George...at y<sup>e</sup> Red Crose...Off Mr Deyn of the Newarke for a tenement in Sent Nycholis parysch...

<sup>1</sup> many.

<sup>2</sup> they.

<sup>3</sup> Cf. No. XI. above.

<sup>4</sup> See note 1, p. 5.

Off y<sup>e</sup> same Mr Deyn for a gardyn besyde y<sup>e</sup> shyre hall...a croft besyd Sent James chapel...in the Sore Lane...yn y<sup>e</sup> hote gate...for his yate howse...tenement called y<sup>e</sup> bell...of the abbot of Leyscter for the corner hows in y<sup>e</sup> chirchgate...in soper lane...a tenement callyd y<sup>e</sup> aungell...in y<sup>e</sup> swyns market...£9. 6s. 6½d.

Total £29. 17s. 2¼d.

## LI. Chamberlains' Account.

Unnumbered roll. [1533—4.]

*Receipts* £32. 19s. 4d.

*Expenses*....My lorde of Huntyngdon...at y<sup>e</sup> stokeyng<sup>1</sup>...a barbyll and a salmun 6s. 4d....Sir John Naeuell<sup>2</sup> (wine)...My lorde Canterburye...wyne to y<sup>e</sup> Kyngs Cowonsyll...£28. 19s. 3d.

*Repairs*....masun & sarvescar...3 daes...2s. 11d.

*Summa* discharge £36. 8s. 10d.

## LII. Returns under the Act of First Fruits.

Box 14, No. 391 (4). [1535.] Latin copy of an ecclesiastical survey taken in pursuance of the Act 26 Henry VIII<sup>3</sup> in the First Fruits Office.

							£	s.	d.
Ric. Fowler Dean	has two parts for his stipend	...	...	...	...	...	4	19	2
John P(y)ke Vicar	and second prebendary, viz. both for his 'vicaria'	...	...	...	...	...			
	and for his prebend, as stipend	...	...	...	...	...	3	17	3
Tho. Bacansawe	3rd prebendary	...	...	...	...	...			
John Bostoke	4th	„	...	...	...	...			
Edmund Derby	5th	„	...	...	...	...			
John Bruer	6th	„	...	...	...	...			
John Ireland	7th	„	...	...	...	...			
Ric. Lillyng	8th	„	...	...	...	...			
								each	19 7

Box 14, No. 391 (1). (Latin copy.) *College of St Mary by the Castle of Leicester. Spirituals in the county of Leicester.* Oblations before the image of St Mary of the Bridge and the Chapel of St James in common years 20s., of profits issuing from divers tithes there both greater and lesser in the parish of the said college there belonging in common years £13. 7s. 5d. Total £14. 7s. 5.

*Temporals in Leicestershire.* Site and rents £10. 1s. 6d.

*Temporals.* Deducted according to the form and effect of the instructions. Rents repaid yearly, viz. to the King 5s. and the college of the Newark of Leicester 1s. as appears more fully in the said declaration. Fees of Ric. Lilling Receiver General there as appears in the aforesaid declaration 10s.—16s. and there remains clear yearly £23. 12s. 11d. which is divided into nine parts between the eight clerks by the foundation, and shewn and examined. The tithe thereof £2. 7s. 3½d.

<sup>1</sup> ? turning the stock on to the pastures.

<sup>2</sup> Neville.

<sup>3</sup> cap. 3. Act for Firstfruits.



Box 14, No. 391 (2). (Latin<sup>1</sup>.) *Parish of St Martin*. The patron of this church is the Abbot of Leicester, having it for his own uses with tithes etc. The vicar there is instituted by the bishop. His pension of old 5 marks.

*St Nicholas parish*. Same patron and institutor. Pension of old 6 marks.

*Parish of St Mary*. The patron of this church the Abbot of Leicester as appears "in matriculo<sup>2</sup>" in these words:—

The church of St Mary of the Castle is of the Abbot of St Mary in the Meadow, having it to his own uses with the tithe of sheaves etc.

From the foundation of the canons all except the oblations and obventions which are appointed for the 7 clerks serving there in person etc.

*Composition of the vicarage* (vicarie). Seek in the book of Parliament<sup>3</sup>. The clerk of this church is instituted and set by the abbot.

We (the abbey) have the tithe of sheaves at the South and West gates by the gift of our founder.

The South gate rendered £16 now £5. The West gate rendered for free entry about £5.

In the charter of the ordering of the canons of the church of St Mary of the Castle it is written:—

(As in Nichols ii. ii. App. p. 303.) Earl Robert (Bossu's) charter requiring Richard Abbot of St Mary de Pratis to provide eight clerks to serve the Castle church, and fixing their portions down to "promittent etc."

Then as in *Mon. Aug.* vi. p. 466, No. xvi. paragraphs 1 and 2. Note that William Charity compiled the book whence this is taken 1502, at the age of 81 in the 63rd year after his entry into religion, the 13th after his Jubilee.

A note from the Augmentation Records of 30 Henry VIII that the yearly salary paid to the Vicar was £8.

### LIII. *Wigston's Bequest to the Borough.*

Hall Book I, p. 323. [Nov. 19, 1535.] Be hit knoue at a commen all holdyn the XIX<sup>th</sup> day of Nouember in the yere of the reynge of Kyng Henry the VIII<sup>th</sup> XXVII<sup>th</sup>, that Mr Will. Wygston marchand dyd reyleysche<sup>4</sup> hys othe & dyd bequeth to the proffytt of the towne of Leicester xli. to the welth & proffytt of the said town etc.

### LIV. *Borough Ordinances.*

Hall Book I, p. 324. [Mar. 11, 1536.] [*Brethren to make kersey*.] Hit was anactyd, staplised and agred at the same comyn hall befor Tho. Burton then beyng Mair of [y<sup>e</sup>] towne of Leicester & all the comburges of the same towne with all the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> of the same for y<sup>e</sup> commyn wylthe of y<sup>e</sup> same towne that the mair and euery of his bretharne shold make euery yer iii kyrsis or in pleyn cloth<sup>5</sup> and

<sup>1</sup> A copy.

<sup>2</sup> *sic*, probably referring to Hugh of Wells's "matriculus," cited by Nichols i. i. p. lv.

<sup>3</sup> There are no means to supply the reference.

<sup>4</sup> release.

<sup>5</sup> or in pleyn clothe added above the line.

the XLVIII<sup>t</sup> ii kyrsys by yer, so long as they fynde any profytt or wauntyge theirin in peyne of forfyttyng the contrary [space]. Thes be amettyd<sup>1</sup> to see this actyd to go forward Mr John Burton, Mr Tho. Myddylton, John Gytlyff, Rob. May, Rob. Cotton & Tho. Burges.

[*Sale of land to a comburgess.*] (p. 325.) And att the same comyn hall hytt was staplysyd and agreed that, Tho. Burton then beyng mair of the towne, with all his bretherne and all the XLVIII, that M<sup>r</sup> Roger Gyllott on<sup>2</sup> of the comburgeys of the same towne shold haue tow tennementes as his backe syed, payeng theirfore *vli.* of gud and lawfull money of England. And this they were all agreyd appon as dowys appayre by a deyd of salle<sup>3</sup>: anno Regni Regis Henrici octavi XXVII.

Item receuyd by hus Rob. Hollay & Christoffor Lambart Chambarlyns of the seid Mr Roger Gyllott the sum *vli.* as dowys appar in our countt.

#### LV. *Gifts to the Town and lease of the Mayor's Hall garden.*

Hall Book I, p. 336. [Jan. 12, 1537.] At y<sup>e</sup> same commyn hall mysteres Burton gaff beffore Roger Gyllott then beyng the mair of y<sup>e</sup> towne of Leicester & all y<sup>e</sup> mastres of y<sup>e</sup> byenche & beffore y<sup>e</sup> XLVIII gaf to the same towne *vis. viiij.*

And at y<sup>e</sup> same commyn hall y<sup>e</sup> mair & his bretherne gaff to y<sup>e</sup> profytt of the same town *iis.* apes of thym & of the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> *xiiij.* apes of them.

Memorandum that at y<sup>e</sup> same commyn hall Mr Cressy towke the gardyn y<sup>at</sup> pertayneth to y<sup>e</sup> maires hall ffor xxx<sup>t</sup> yeres payeng yerly ffor the same gardyn *xxiiij.*

#### LVI. *Election of Mayor's Brethren<sup>4</sup>.*

Hall Book I, p. 337. [March 27, 1537.] Memorandum that y<sup>e</sup> XXVII<sup>th</sup> day of Marche in the tyme of the meirallte of Roger Gyllott then beyng mair, was then sett on the benche Mr Symond Pays, Rob. Cotton, & Rob. May. And the seid Mr Symond Pais promysyd Mr Mair to pay *vli.* at Martyllmas & Crystynmas for the reydemeng of his chaumbarlynshypp.

<sup>1</sup> admitted.

<sup>2</sup> one.

<sup>3</sup> sale.

<sup>4</sup> A specimen example. Many such entries in the Hall Books.

LVII. *Obit in St Margaret's.*

Box J, No. 449. [March 20, 1538.] Indenture (English) between Randell Wood Mayor of Leicester of the one part, and Christopher Clough inn-holder, John Holmes baker, Henry Green husbandman, and Tho. Davy shoemaker of the other part. Whereas Margery Thomson widow of Henry Thomson seised the above-named feoffors of lands which she had by her husband's will to keep yearly for ever an obit in the church of St Margaret for the souls of her husband and herself and all Christians, to the value of 10s. 4d., the "dirige" to be done on the Sunday before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross called Holy Rood Day, and mass on the morn, the vicar to have 8d. and other five priests, if there be so many, 4d. each, and to the two parish clerks, 2d. each, and the two children that shall sing versicles at the "dirige" 1d. each, for two "hedmesse pense<sup>1</sup>," 2d. Also to the Mayor of Leicester 4d. if he is there and offers 1d. Also for four penny tapers to burn at "dirige" and mass time, the same to be had of the vicar, 4d. To the bellman for going about the town 2d. To the church of St Margaret for all the five bells to be rung 2s. To the ringers 1s. 4d. And for the bede roll that the said Henry and Margery may be then prayed for in perpetuity 4d. The residue of the said 10s. 4d. to be divided equally into two parts, one part to be stood in bread, ale and cheese, for those in the choir at the "dirige," the other part to be distributed amongst the poor of the parish by the view of the vicar. To the feoffors for their labours 7s. To the treasury (chamber) of Leicester 1s. Therefore the Mayor binds himself and his successors to agree to these conditions and becomes seised of the lands, to the use of the chamber of the town: the overplus of the rent is to be yearly distributed among the poor of the said parish according to the Mayor's discretion. Sealed with the office of Mayoralty and with the seals of the feoffors.

(Tags for four seals, of which two remain.)

LVIII. *Royal proclamation requiring the assistance of officers in the execution of the King's writs.*

Box C, No. 451. [May 15, 1538.] (Latin address: Henry the Eighth by the Grace of God King of England and France, Defender of the Faith, and on earth the Supreme Head of the English Church, to the Mayor and Bailiff of the Town of Leicester greeting. We order you that as soon as you have seen these presents, you cause public proclamation to be made on our behalf in all the wards, parishes, and other places within the aforesaid town and the suburbs thereof, both within the liberties and without, wheresoever you shall deem it most expedient, in these words):—

Where<sup>2</sup> dyuers and sundry officers, hauyng auctoritie vnder the Kynges maiestie for due execucion of Justice, to attach and arrest by the bodyes as well the Kynges subiectes as other within the lymyttes of their auctorities by virtue of writtes, warrauntes, preceptes and other

<sup>1</sup> See the quotations in *N.E.D.* v. p. 145.

<sup>2</sup> where=whereas.

laufull commandementes, graunted, taken, and affirmed, by the due course of the lawes of this Realme, haue dyuers and sundry tymes been hurte, mayhemed<sup>1</sup>, slayne and muredred, in and for the mynystracion and execucion of their offices, to the high displeasure of Allmyghty God, and in contempt of the lawes, power and iurisdiccion royall of the Kyng our soueraign lord, ordeyned and gyven to his maiestie by God: and after such offenses doon, the offendours haue taken and hadd pryuyleges of sayntuary and also of their clergie, and by such meanes haue dyuers tymes escaped without punyshment to the great boldenes of such offendours, and to the subuersion of all good cyvyle orders:—The Kynges most royall maiestie consideryng, like as his highnes is ordeyned the mynyster of God, and by his kyngly office obliged and bounden by Goddys lawe, to admynyster equall Justice to all such as well pore as rich, which been vnder his rule, cure, charge, gouernaunce and domynyon:—So like maner of wise, his subiectes and other lyuyng within his realme, cuntreys and domynyons, are straightly bounden and oblyged by the lawes of God humbly to obbey his maiestie, his lawes, preceptes and commandementes, and all and syngler his officers and substitutes mynstryng and executyng the same:—And therfore his highnes earnestly myndyng to maynteyne his auctoritie and iurisdiccion regall gyven to hym by God, and to reduce and constrainne, aswell his subiectes as other abydyng within his domynyons, to their duety of obedyence as apperteyneth to Goddes honour and to the welth, vnytie and tranquyllytie of his realme:—Doth straightly charge and commande aswell all and syngler his louyng subiectes as other abydyng within eny his dommynyons, of what estate, degre or condicion soeuer they be of, that they and euery of theym fromhensforth doo obey and yeld theym selves to the arrestes and attachementes of all Maires, Shriffes, Bayllyffes, Sergeantes and other his mynysters without refusell, rescusse<sup>2</sup> or resystence; and if eny person or persons of what estate, degre or condicion soeuer they be, doo hurte or mayheme eny of his said officers or mynysters in and for execucion and doying of their offices in arrestyng or attachyng eny of theym by their bodyes, that then the offendours in such cases and their aydours, maynteynours and procurers shall lose and forfayte all their goodes, landes and catalles, and their bodyes to be commytted to perpetuall pryson; and if eny person or persons sle and murdre eny of the said officers or mynysters in and for executyng and doying of their offices, in attachyng or arrestyng eny of theym by the bodyes, that then in euery such case

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<sup>1</sup> maimed.

<sup>2</sup> rescue.

the offendours and their aydours, maynteynours, abettours and procurers shall suffer death without remysion or pardon, and that they ne eny of theym, shall haue or enjoye the pryuylege of eny sayntuarye nor their clergie.

And furthermore his maiestie being credybylly enfourmed that dyuers and sundry his subjectes haue lately been murdred and slayne in sundry frayes happenyng by chaunces by reason of sodeyne foynes<sup>1</sup> with swerdes and other weapons, myndyng to take awaye the occasion of such sodeyne sleying and murdryng—doth straightly charge and commaunde that no person or persons in eny affrey or fyght that shall happen or chaunce betwene theym shall vse in his fight eny foyne or foynes with his swerde or other his weapon, and if eny person or persons from hensforth sle or murdre eny by occasion of such foyne or foynes that then the offendours contrary to this proclamacion shall suffer death without remysion or pardon, and shall also lose his clergie and pryuylege of sayntuarye.

(Latin conclusion: And this, under the penalty attaching, do not neglect in any way. Witness myself at Westminster 15 May, in the 30th year of our reign.)

[Portion of the Great Seal appended.]

### LIX. *Chamberlains' Accounts.*

Unnumbered roll. [1537—8.] *Chargys*<sup>2</sup> £39. 10s. 1d.

*Rents paid out*....to the kyng for rents of assyes for dyvars londs and tenements in the pariche of sent Margarits 1s. 10d....the kyng for the house at the Southeyate...to the kyng for chef of the commyn butts...baylyf of Wytwycke<sup>3</sup> for suyt of court 3s. 10d....to the kyngs audytor a broyd arrow<sup>4</sup>.

*Fees, gyfts of wyne etc.* (Mayor's fee £10)...to Mr Baymond<sup>5</sup> for his fee 26s. 8d....to hym that brought the letter at the burthe of pryns Edward 6s. 8d....for noottys and appuls...of the praycessyon day for braed wyne and ales at the bonfyer 7s. 4d....wood to the bonfyer...1s. 6d....yerle of Darbes blayars<sup>6</sup> 5s....to the Seycretars<sup>7</sup> players players (*sic*) 5s....to our prynsys<sup>8</sup> players 6s. 8d....wyne at the fair 8d. (wine) to Sir John Wyellars<sup>9</sup> and Mr Baymond 8d....for makyng of the poore fokys cokons<sup>10</sup> 8d.—£22. 15s. 5d.

<sup>1</sup> thrusts.

<sup>2</sup> *i.e.* receipts: usual items.

<sup>3</sup> suit rendered for lands at Whetstone.

<sup>4</sup> for Butt Close.

<sup>5</sup> as Recorder.

<sup>6</sup> the Earl of Derby's players.

<sup>7</sup> Cromwell.

<sup>8</sup> Probably Lady Mary's.

<sup>9</sup> Villiers.

<sup>10</sup> scutcheons for the licensed beggars.

*Rayparacions etc....* for 2 C. of forepeny neylls 8*d*....6 spares to make a dorman<sup>1</sup> over the Este yate 6½*d*....5 yards of hyllyng<sup>2</sup> wark... 25*s*....7 M. of slate penys<sup>3</sup> 2*s*....2 rowyd<sup>4</sup> of hyllyngwarke ouer the Sothyate 10*s*. and a rowyd of pywnttyng<sup>5</sup> warke 1*s*. 6*d*....peys of tymber to make a groundesyll<sup>6</sup>...9 C. lathneylls 9*d*....3 bunche of lath...1*s*....a bottyll of strawe 1*d*....to the warkemen 7 days warke... 2*s*. 4*d*....M. of stone lathe neylls<sup>7</sup> 1*s*....a C. of towpeny neylls 4*d*.... 2 sparrs to bare up the lathys 3*d*....6 fowtt<sup>8</sup> bords to make the bulke<sup>9</sup> at the Southyate...6 yards of evysborde 6*d*....to make a louver<sup>10</sup> the chymnay...7*d*.—£4. 13*s*. 5*d*.

*Dekeys...* 17*s*. 9*d*.

*Discharge* £29. 5*s*. 8*d*. (note of payment of the balance to the town).

Unnumbered roll. [1538—9.] (Part only and imperfect)...fine for not rydyng of the George 40*s*.

*Fees....* John Baymonde our Recorder...remayning of the carts unto the holly boouys<sup>11</sup>...dressyng of the towne harnes 6*s*. 8*d*. (wine) to my lord of Showrysby...(mending the pinfold and stocks at the Southgate)...paid for dryssyng of the dragon<sup>12</sup> 4*s*.

#### LX. *Ordinance on absence from Common Hall.*

Hall Book I, p. 361. [Sep. 21, 1539.] At a commyn hall holdyn of Mychalmas day last past beffore Mr Nic. Raynold then beyng the maire of the towne of Leicester and all hys brethren & the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup>, hyt was enactyd & agreyd that yf any of the mastaires hauyng leffull warnyng be away without a lawfull cause to pay euer[y] of them viiid. to the proffyt of the towne & euery one of y<sup>e</sup> XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> iiid. without any deny<sup>13</sup> & thys euermore to ynduer<sup>14</sup>.

#### LXI. *Waits' collars.*

Hall Book I, p. 361. [Oct. 6, 1539.] Memorandum that the VI day of October cam beffore Mr Nic. Reynold then beyng mair of the towne of Leicester & Robt. Newton & Nic. Heyrycke camerariis, that ys to wytt that the weyttes collars<sup>15</sup> waytht XXIII *onc.* & dim.

<sup>1</sup> sleeper, supporting joists.    <sup>2</sup> roofing.    <sup>3</sup> pins.    <sup>4</sup> ? rod.    <sup>5</sup> pointing.

<sup>6</sup> threshold.    <sup>7</sup> See II. 344 note 5.    <sup>8</sup> foot.

<sup>9</sup> Probably here a shop or stall, see *N.E.D.*    <sup>10</sup> louver, opening for the smoke to escape.

<sup>11</sup> boughs or booths? ? meaning.    <sup>12</sup> for a pageant presumably.

<sup>13</sup> denial.

<sup>14</sup> A reduction on the fine above, p. 25.

<sup>15</sup> See II. 363.

LXII. *Contract of apprenticeship.*

Hall Book I, p. 361. [Oct. 20, 1539.] Memorandum that they<sup>1</sup> xx day off October in the xxxi yere off the reyne off Kyng Henri the VIII<sup>th</sup> Joh. Busche schomaker dyd promys before me Nich. Reynold to pay to hys servant Roger Calwell or to hys assines at the ende of v yeris off hys prentyshepe the sum off xxs., the weche he had off hys frendis for hys chyldes parte<sup>2</sup>, and other xxs. at the end off vi yeris off hys own gyfte for hys servys as apperyth in the indenters mayde betwyxte the sed partis afore me Nich. Reynold.

LXIII. *Petition against foreigners who trade in Leicester.*

Box 9, No. 205. [Without date: probably Jan. 1, 1540.] To the Ryght Honorable Wyllyam<sup>3</sup>, Erle of Southampton, Chauncelor of the Duchye of Lancastre.

Shewyth and complayneth vnto your good honorable lordeshyp your oratours the Mayre and Burgesses of the Kynges towne of Leycester, parcell of the duchye of Lancastre, that where before thys tyme hyt hath byn usyd and accustomyd wythin the sayd towne that no foreyners dwellyng oute of the sayd towne should selle by retayle eny maner of wares or marchandys but onelye vytalers for vytelles wythin the sayd towne of Leycester, excepte in the tyme of the fayres theyre, and then to selle by retayle all thynges: By whych good custome the sayd towne was by long tyme well mayntayned in welthe vnto<sup>4</sup> now of late wythin the space of xl yerez laste paste or theyre aboute, that foreners dwellyng oute of the sayd towne haue byn suffred to selle wares and marchandys wythin the sayd towne by retayle; and by reyson that foreners haue such lybertye many persons haue wythdrawne theym selves from inhabytyng wythin the sayd towne and daylye do more and more, syth they haue byn suffred to selle by retayle wythin the sayd towne of Leycester, as the inhabytauntes theyrof do, so that the greter parte of the hye strete of the sayd towne within the sayd xl yerez ys goon to ruyn and decaye, and other places of the sayd towne lykewyse not onelye decayd but utterlye desolate and now fallyn in gret povertie to the greyt losse of our soveraygn lorde the kyng and the dekey of the said towne, and

<sup>1</sup> they = the.

<sup>2</sup> Roger Caldwell's "child's part," his share of his father's property, had apparently been handed over to John Bush's keeping. See below for the borough rules of wardship.

<sup>3</sup> William Fitzwilliam.

<sup>4</sup> unto = until.

more ys lyke to do, onles your lordeshyps favour and honorable goodnes herein unto theym be sewyd:—Maye yt pleyse your good lordshyps, the premyssez consedered to move the kyngs majestye that for a mayntenance of the sayd town yt maye stande wyth hys pleasure to graunte unto the sayd meyre and burgeses hys gracyous lettres patentes unther hys sayle of hys duchye of Lancastre in dewe forme to be made that the sayd mayre and burgeses and other inhabyting wythin hys sayd towne of Leycester shall selle all maner wares and vytayle by retayle or in grosse as they have accustomed, and that no forener not dwellyng and resedente wythin the sayd towne of Leycester shall selle by retayle eny wares or marchandyse at any tyme wythin the sayd towne of Leycester, the tymys and days of the fayres onelye excepte, but to selle theyr sayd wares and marchandyse in grosse; apon payne to forffet to our sayd soveraygn lorde the kyng for every tyme the halfe valewe of the ware, stuffe and marchandys solde by retayle; and your sayd oratourz shall daylye praye unto God for the preservacion of your good honorable lordeship long in honour to endure.

*Note.* Mr Jenkynson I praye you make this supplicacion in any wyse substancyall and yf you se cause to deliver yt to the quenes maiestie<sup>1</sup> for otherwyse we thynke yt wyll in the parliament take no place.

#### LXIV. *Borough Ordinance against Foreigners.*

Hall Book I, p. 370. [Jan. 17, 1540.] Memorandum that hit was anactyd at the same commyn hall beffore Nic. Raynold then beyng mair of the towne of Leicestre by y<sup>e</sup> consent of y<sup>e</sup> seid mair & his bretherne the comburges of the said towne<sup>2</sup> and all the XLVIII, hyt was agreyd that no craftsman nor wyttelour beyng fareners<sup>3</sup> shall not sell no maner of ware nor wyttle except the<sup>4</sup> sell by holle sale on the markytt day within y<sup>e</sup> seid towne.

#### LXV. *Gilds and Crafts' contributions to Town costs and charter.*

Hall Book I, p. 362. [Jan. 29, 1540.] Memorandum that y<sup>e</sup> XXIX<sup>th</sup> day of Januarii cam beffore me Nic. Raynold then beyng maire of the towne of Leicester & otheire of my bretherne, the occupacyon of Smythys & they gaf to y<sup>e</sup> chambare of y<sup>e</sup> seid towne

<sup>1</sup> The Earl of Southampton on Dec. 27, 1539 brought Anne of Cleves to England. Henry VIII saw her on Jan. 1.

<sup>2</sup> MS. to towne.

<sup>3</sup> victualler being foreigners (not freemen).

<sup>4</sup> they.



xiiis. iiiid. towards the costes & charges of y<sup>e</sup> seid towne now at this terme etc. a. r. r. Henrici Octavi tricesimo primo.

Memorandum that theire came beffore the seid maire & certyn of his bretherne the occupacion of Bocheres & gaf to the chammbere of the towne of Leicestre for charges of [y<sup>e</sup>] seid towne the day & yere abouueseid xxvis. viiid.

Memorandum thatt theire came before y<sup>e</sup> seid mair & certyn of his bretherne the occupacion of Bakeres & gaf vnto the chamber of y<sup>e</sup> seide towne ffor charges of the same—viis. viiid.

Memorandum that theire came beffore the seid maire & certyn of his bretherne the occupacon of Corvysers.

Book of Acts, p. 1. [March 20<sup>1</sup>, 1500.] (Record of Henry VIII's grant of two fairs (in English) at Midsummer and the Conception of Our Blessed Lady besides other two held of old<sup>2</sup>):—toward the charges and expences for the ratyfyeing and stablyshynge...the maysters, wardens and stewards of the Geyldes of Corpus Christi and the Geyld of Sent Margaret in Leycester in the name of all the holl bretherhoode haue grauntyd and frely gyven for euer, owt of ther owne boxesse or coffers of both the seyd gylds, the some of twenty pounds sterlyng, that ys to wyt of ether of the seyd gylds ten pounds; and for by cause the matter therof may remayne of recorde for euer, the seyd Mayor and Comburgeys and also the seyd maysters, wardens and stewerds ben condyscendyd and agreed that yt shal be thus inrowlyd or registryd in the towne boke there to remayne as a memoryall for euer.

Hall Book I, p. 378. [1540.] Memorandum, reyceuyd of masteres & stuarde of Corpus Chrysty gyld affore Mr Maire & his brether towards the charges & costys for the laboryng of the Kynges charter for ii new feyrys for the towne of Leicestre the sum of x*li*.

Also rec<sup>d</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> mistres<sup>3</sup> & stewardestes of the gyld of Sent Margaryttes for the same costez & charges the sum of x*li*.

Also more reyceuyd of the occupacon of bakeres for y<sup>e</sup> same charges vis. viiid.

Item rec<sup>d</sup> of the occupacyon of bochares for the same charges xxvis. viiid.

Item rec<sup>d</sup> of the occupacion of smythes for the same chargys xiiis. iiiid.

*Summa xxiili. vis. viiid.*

The wiche forseid sum was paid to the chambarlyns for the

<sup>1</sup> MS. 12, but this must be a mistake.

<sup>2</sup> See No. LXVI.

<sup>3</sup> masters.

charges afforseid, and the seid chamberlyns paid to Mr Barton as appeyryth by hys byll for rydyng to London & rydyng to Waldyn & for the saylyng of the charter *xli. iis. xid.*

Item the seid chamberlyns paid to Mr Robt. Cotton for lyke chargys *ixli. xiiis. xd.*

Item paid by the handes of the seid chamamberlyns to Mr Gyllott for the townes busenys *vis. viiid.*

Item paid to Mr Wood by the handes of the same chamberlyns for lyke chargys *vis. viiid.*

Item paid to Mr Bolt by the handdes of the seid chamberlyns for rydyng to London att tow termes for the townes busenesse *xls.*

*Summa xxiiili. xis. id.*

So the towne was at charge no more but *iiis. vd.*

#### LXVI. *Henry VIII's charter of fairs*<sup>1</sup>.

Box C, No. 454. [March 20, 1540.] Letters patent by which Henry VIII grants to the Mayor and burgesses a fair on the feast of the Nativity of St John the Baptist (June 24) and two days before and after, and one on the feast of the Conception of the Virgin (Dec. 8) and two days before and after<sup>2</sup>, so that every native and foreigner coming to Leicester for the fair may be quit of toll, stallage, pickage etc. and the government of the fairs is confirmed to the Mayor and burgesses, and to be arranged by the Mayor and two or three of the best men of the town elected and sworn.

#### LXVII. *Grant of land and rent to the borough.*

Box J, No. 457. [June 10, 1540.] Latin indenture from Ralph Colley Dean of the College of St Mary by the Castle and the canons of the same releasing to the Mayor, burgesses and community all their right in 4s. of yearly rent issuing from a messuage in the Swinesmarket, situated between the king's land late Will. Shaw's on the East, and land of the College on the West, on condition that the Mayor, burgesses and community grant an annual rent of 6*d.* issuing from the same.

(Fragment of the seal of the College of St Mary.)

Box J, No. 458. [June 12, 1540.] Another setting forth the conditions of the agreement by which the Mayor, burgesses and community owe a rent of 6*d.* to the Dean and Canons, as above.

Box J, No. 459. [12 June, 1540.] Grant from Roger Gyllot and Ralph Wood, comburgesses of Leicester and masters or guardians of the Gild of Corpus Christi in St Martin's parish by assent of all the fraternity of the gild, to the Mayor and community of the town and their successors, of a tenement in the Swinesmarket, between the tenement of the said Mayor and community and that of the Dean and

<sup>1</sup> In full in Latin, in Nichols IV. i. App. p. 392, and in *Bibl. Topog. Brit.* VIII. p. 966—7.

<sup>2</sup> In addition to the old fairs of May 1 and Sep. 29, II. pp. 111, 296.

Canons of the College of St Mary by the Castle, and stretching from the Swines-market towards the North, as far as the land late Richard Eyre's towards the South. Witnesses Nic. Reynold, Mayor, Tho. Catlyn, bailiff, John Westawes, Will. Tebbe, John Barton, Will. Pratt, comburgesses, Rob. Newcom and Nic. Eryk, chamberlains.

LXVIII. *Royal Proclamation excluding Irish coins from currency in England*<sup>1</sup>.

Box J, No. 460. [Nov. 16, 1540.] (Latin address to the Sheriff of Warwick and Leicestershire, as in No. LVIII. above):—Where<sup>2</sup> the Kynges moste royall maiestie at his graces great costes and expenses hathe a longe tyme susteynyd and yet kepith a great armye in his londe of Ireland, as well for consuacion and deffence of his seid lond as for the annoyaunce of suche his heighnes enymyes as attempt dayle great dyspleasures agenst his subiectes of the same, and for the mayntenaunce and relyf of the seid armye and subiectes by his most excellent wysdome hathe ordenyd a coyne of money as well of grottes as pens of two pens to be currant only within his seid lond of Ireland beryng the prynte of the harpe on the oon syde thereof: whiche coyne dyuers and sondre persons haue lately transportid and brought out of the seid lond and vttrid the same within this his realme of Englund not only to the great detryment and hurte of his sayd graces lond of Ireland and of the seid armye and subiectes of the same but also to the great deceyt of his heignes louyng subiectes of this his Realme of Englund.

For remedye whereof his Maiestye by this his proclamacion stretly chargith and comaundyth that no persone or persons of what estate, degre or condycion so euer he or the<sup>3</sup> be of, shall from hensforth transporte or brynge out of his said heighnes lond of Ireland eny of the seid coyne of grottes or pence of two pens ordeynyd to be currant for and within the seid lond nor vtter or paye for eny payment wythin this his realme of Englund, Wales, Barwyke, Calice<sup>4</sup> or the Marches of the same, any of the same coyne vppon payne of forfeiture of the treble value of the seid coyne brought, transported or vttrid for payment contrary to this proclamacion and ouer that to suffer ymprysoinment and make fyne at his gracyis wyll and pleasure. (Latin conclusion and attestation clause.)

<sup>1</sup> Not among the facsimiles of proclamations. Summary in *Cal. Dom. State Papers* xvi. No. 281, and *Cal. Carew MSS.*, No. 151.

<sup>2</sup> where = whereas.

<sup>3</sup> they.

<sup>4</sup> Berwick, Calais.

LXIX. *Royal gift of venison.*

Hall Book I, p. 367. [Probably Nov. 1540.] Harre be y<sup>e</sup> grasse of God kyng of Yngland and of France lorde of Y[r]land protector of y<sup>e</sup> feth.

I wyll and command y<sup>at</sup> yow dayliuer or cause to be dayliuered ii dosses<sup>1</sup> of y<sup>is</sup> saessun<sup>2</sup> to be tacun of my gyft.

LXX. *Receipt of Subsidy and Waits' Collars.*

Hall Book I, p. 389. [Mar. 3, 1542.] Memorandum at the same comyn hall Nic. Carter & Ric. Cloughton chamberlyns dyd reiceue of Mr Wod ffor the rest of y<sup>e</sup> xv<sup>t</sup> penny the sume xliiis. vd. Item more paid to Mr Ricordar of the same monny vs.

Item more reiceuyd of Mr Hugh Aston maire at the same comyn hall for xv or subsyde the sume of xxxs. iiid. ob. etc.

Memorandum that John Holloy haue promysed to pay hys money for y<sup>e</sup> chapman gyld before Nic. Carter & Ric. Cloughton chamberlynes make their accountt.

Item the collers<sup>3</sup> dothe wey vii ounse dim. & halfe a quarter delyueryd vnto the handes of Will. Vernham & Ric. Randall the xix<sup>th</sup> day of Nouembre the xxxv year of the [reign] of Kyng Henry the Eyght etc.

LXXI. *Duchy Tenants toll-free.*

Box C, No. 461. [May 15, 1542.] Henry VIII's inspeximus of a record (English) among the records of the Duchy of Lancaster in the Duchy treasury (camera) at Westminster: Trinity term 32 Henry VIII. Whereas complaint has been made to the Chancellor and Council of the Duchy of Lancaster on behalf of Will. May, Will. Catcher and others the King's tenants in Enfield, Middlesex, part of the Duchy, against one Will. Holland, toll-gatherer of the City of London, who took distraint for toll, and the taking of toll, pickage and stallage is contrary to the franchise of the Duchy, it is now ordered that the tenants of the Duchy pass free, in London and elsewhere. But if they carry the goods of any stranger not privileged, and conceal the same by fraud, then the tenant found guilty shall forfeit double the value of such goods. Lessees of land within the Duchy may also go quit of toll, while they are resident.

(Seal of the Duchy of Lancaster.)

<sup>1</sup> does.

<sup>2</sup> season.

<sup>3</sup> See above, No. LXI.

LXXII. *Rental of Corpus Christi Gild.*

Box 7, No. 183. [Sep. 29, 1541 to Sep. 29, 1542.] Sum of the rents at will, £20. 2s. 8d. Chief rents £6. 19s. 10½d. Total £27. 2s. 6d. The details are closely similar to those of No. L. above.

LXXIII. *Chamberlains' Accounts.*

Unnumbered roll. [1541—2.] *Rents...Recctys.* Chapman gild... of the Stewards of the feer<sup>1</sup> 33s. 3½d.... for the kedds<sup>2</sup> in the Cowe hey 10s....of the smythes of the towne 5s. Total charge £35. 18s. 0½d.

*Fees* etc....weytes leyueres<sup>3</sup>...24s....to the weytys in money 4d.... Mr Mairres denner and Mr Baymound<sup>4</sup> at the muster 5s....denner at Corpus Christi hall 8s. 4d....mending of the towne weytys collars 3s. 4s....dygyng of turvys for y<sup>e</sup> buttes 4d....at Corpus Christi hall for alles after y<sup>at</sup> Mr Mare had eton weynesson 8d. ..when my lord prevysayll<sup>5</sup> was here 4d....for sewyng<sup>6</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> posthorse 6d....mending of y<sup>e</sup> towne harnys 2s. 8d....leither to y<sup>e</sup> same...bockolls to y<sup>e</sup> same... Mr Myeners<sup>7</sup> seruaunt y<sup>at</sup> brogh<sup>8</sup> the venysson 1s....y<sup>e</sup> kynges bairward 2s. 7d....my lord privysaylle<sup>5</sup> for welwett<sup>9</sup> pryse 1s. 4d.... Mr Dalton cla(r)ke of y<sup>e</sup> markytt 2s....for reynewyng of y<sup>e</sup> charter 26s. 8d....Mr Reynold for sent George hall 4s.

*Yefts of wyne*....my lord of Darbe...kynges surwayares...my lord marquis<sup>10</sup> 25 Oct....7 Jan....my lord of Shrosbery...my lord Prevysayll<sup>5</sup>...lord Roos<sup>11</sup> and Mr Maners...my lades grace...the kynges recever...lord Hastings...lord Cromell<sup>12</sup>...lord of Huntyngton...

Repairs (to East gate)...drawyng of thacke to a woman 1d.—Dichargis £49. 3s. 10d.

Unnumbered roll. [1542—3.] (Beside chapman gild fees others "for setting up of his occupacion" 1s. 8d. each)...for rydyng of the George 40s....fifteenth money...willowes about the cowhay. Receipts £15. 18s. 0½d.

*Fees* etc....Vycker of sent Margaryts for a nobbet<sup>13</sup>...fatching of two swannes at Shulton...mending of Fulwood's mase...

*Yeftes of wyne*....my lord of Shrosbury...kyngks audytours...hyghe shreyf Mr Gravyll...a qartern of E33ynges<sup>14</sup> and symnells that was gyffyn to my lady marques Dorset on the Munday afore midlent

<sup>1</sup> feer=fair.<sup>2</sup> ?? kids, faggots.<sup>3</sup> leyueres=liveries.<sup>4</sup> Recorder.<sup>5</sup> John Russell, Duke of Bedford, Privy Seal after Dec. 3, 1542.<sup>6</sup> shoeing.<sup>7</sup> Manners.<sup>8</sup> brought.<sup>9</sup> velvet.<sup>10</sup> Dorset.<sup>11</sup> Thomas Manners, lord Roos.<sup>12</sup> Gregory, the son of Thomas Cromwell.<sup>13</sup> obit of Ric. Elkesley.<sup>14</sup> ? edgings, some sort of pastry or cake?

Sunday...a galond of rumaney<sup>1</sup>...cakes to my lorde marques and the Erle of Shrosbury upon Wesson<sup>2</sup> evyn...upon Raylect Sondag<sup>3</sup> evyn...galond of muscadyll<sup>4</sup>...nuttcs, appulls, peyrs and damassons... 2 swannes—gyffyn to Mr Manners 13s. 4d....mamse<sup>5</sup>...to Sir Antony Breune<sup>6</sup>.

*Reparacions*...two burden of letter<sup>7</sup> for the clay...a rayle and a stolpe<sup>8</sup> for the lyttyll brygge...hartlath...strawlath...stonelath<sup>9</sup> (nails) ...cheyns at the Estyate...castyng of the dyche in the horse fayre...

#### LXXIV. *Bond of apprenticeship to a tailor.*

Box J, No. 463. [March? 1543.] C. Hill puts himself to serve Ivo Handley tailor to learn his art and stay with him from Easter 1543 for 7 years. He shall keep the secrets of Ivo his master, do him no damage, nor let others do so to the value of 6*d.*, but prevent it or at once warn his master: will not give or lend his master's goods without his wish: will not frequent taverns, play at dice or other illicit games; will not marry nor affianc himself without his master's consent, nor commit fornication or adultery in his master's house, nor withdraw from service illicitly nor absent himself by night or day under the penalty of doubling the years of his term. Ivo shall teach him his art in the best way he can: may chastise him duly; must find him food and clothes, linen and woollen, bed and hose sufficient and other necessities incumbent, for the whole term, as is proper to such apprentice in this art according to the use and custom of Leicester, and pay for each of the last 4 years 1*s.* 4*d.*, and at the end of the term 3*s.* 4*d.*, double array<sup>10</sup> (indument<sup>11</sup>), a pair of shears and a pressing iron. Witnessed by the Mayor and others.

#### LXXV. *Borough Rental.*

Box K, no number. [Oct. 1543.] The rents of assize in Leicester amount to £9. 19*s.* 1*d.* Whetstone rents £4. 7*s.* -*d.*

Ratcliff, Gildmorton, Thrussington, Much Ashby, Scraftoft, not added.

Chief rents and obits paid by the Chamberlains 18*s.* 5*d.*

(Compare above No. IX.)

#### LXXVI. *Riding the George*<sup>11</sup>.

Hall Book I, p. 400. [Oct. 5, 1543.] Memorandum that at y<sup>e</sup> same comon hall before Mr Meyre his bretharn and the XLVIII<sup>t</sup> Mr Mey meyr, master of Sent Georges gyld, paid to Hew Barlo & Will. Alsope because the George was nat rydyn x*ls.*

<sup>1</sup> Romney, wine from Napoli di Romania in the Morea, *Nottingham Records*, III.

<sup>2</sup> Whitsun.

<sup>3</sup> Relic Sunday, the third after Midsummer Day.

<sup>4</sup> wine perfumed with musk.

<sup>5</sup> Malmsey, from Napoli di Malvasia in the Morea.

<sup>6</sup> Sir Anthony Browne, Master of the Horse.

<sup>7</sup> litter.

<sup>8</sup> post.

<sup>9</sup> See II. 344—5.

<sup>10</sup> See No. XLII. dress for holidays and workdays.

<sup>11</sup> See above, No. XXXII. p. 24.

LXXVII. *Survey of St Mary's College.*

Box 14, No. 391 (3). [Feb. 14, 1546.] Modern copy of the certificate of the Commissioners for the survey of Chantries etc.

<i>Receipts</i>	£	s.	d.
Rents of the College of St Mary near the Castle ... ..	24	19	6
Moveable rents yearly of divers free tenants, viz. for the price of 17 hens, each hen at 3 <i>d.</i> ... ..	0	5	1
Farm of the mansion there ... ..	0	6	8

*Charges*

Rents to the King as to his Duchy 6 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i> , to the late priory of Sheen 1 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> and to the Castle of Leicester 8 <i>d.</i> ...	0	8	3
Bailiff's fee there per annum ... ..	2	0	0
Surveyor's fee ... ..	1	0	0
Stipend of Ralph Cowley Dean ... ..	5	0	0
Stipends of 6 chaplains at £2. 7 <i>s.</i> 2½ <i>d.</i> each ... ..	14	3	4
Yearly pension to Ric. Fowler for the Dean ... ..	1	0	0
Tenths to the King ... ..	2	7	3½

*Surplus* 7*s.* 6½*d.*

Seven priests now resident, and one room void: within the parish 500 houseling people and a mansion house for all the said priests. The College is within the parish church of Our Lady, where there is a vicar endowed, and he has a pension of the King's Majesty of £8 a year by reason of the dissolution of the late monastery of Leicester and no other profits but only his mansion house and little garden on the West side of the College, next to Gun Dyke, no lands, plate or seemly ornaments.

LXXVIII. *On the impanelling of a Portmoot Jury.*

Hall Book I, p. 403. [Sep. 12, 1545.] Memorandum the XII day of Septembre a.r.r. Henrici octavi XXXVII cam before Mr Will. Olyf, then beyng mare of the towne of Leycester, Fraunces Moys stuerd of the cowrte of Portemote, & sayd that in the sayd cowrte whereas ther was an inpanell betwext John Olyf & John Dyxe in the verdyt gyuen before the seyde mayr & immedyatly after the sayd jury was commaundyd to appere before the sayd Mr Mayr, & whan they shold haue apperyd the sayd Fraunces Moys sayd yt shold not nede, for he wold dyscharge the sayd Mr Mayr of any thyng that shold be layd to hys charge for the apperance of them at al tymes whan so euer he sholde be callyd.

by me Will. Norice.

LXXIX. *Chamberlains' Account<sup>1</sup>.*

Box 7, No. 185. [1544—5.] (*Borough Rental<sup>2</sup>*—totals not added.)  
*Feyes and other payments.* Fyrst paid to Mr Will. Olyffe then meyr for hys fee 10*li.* Item paid to master Meyr for clensure of

<sup>1</sup> In bad condition.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. above, No. IX.

the markyt place 6s. 8d. (...illegible). Item paid to Wynchester fee for chef<sup>1</sup> 5s. Item payd for a horse and a man for goynge to master recorder for hys counsell for sessynge of chef rent...at the cessions at sent Math...(illegible) for the benevolens 20s....for makynge answare at London for our sheppe pennes. Item paid for sending for Mr recorder aganst the cessions after Loosonday<sup>2</sup> 1s. 8d....for a qwere of paper 3d....dyner at thys acompt 6s. 8d....for wyne...at the comynge of my lord Marcus<sup>3</sup> to the cessions...wyne for my lord Marcus whan he satt of the subsidy 8d....in sugar, alows and cake 6d. Item gyven to my lord Marcus of wyne at Mydsomer 5s. 8d.

*Repairs.*

#### LXXX. *Borough Land.*

Book of Acts, p. 1. [Nov. 20, 1545.] Record of the purchase for the town of a chief [rent] of 12d. a year to the King paid from land lately belonging to the Court of Augmentation. Price 20s.

#### LXXXI. *Royal lease of the Sheep Pens.*

Box J, No. 465. [Nov. 29, 1545.] Copy (c. 1600) of a Latin lease from the King to Rob. Catlyn gent. of all his folds vulgarly called "Les shepes pennes" situated in his market within his town of Leicester, parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster, with all the profits thence arising, for 20 years, at £4 a year, paid to the King's bailiff of the town.

#### LXXXII. *Borough Ordinances.*

Hall Book I, p. 415. [Mar. 19, 1546.] [*Refusing the Mayor's brotherhood.*] Act renewed as in No. XXXVI. with the further clause:—& yf yt fortune that any of the seyd XLVIII<sup>t</sup> so electe & chosyn to be on<sup>4</sup> of the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> by the consent of the mayr for the tyme beyng & hys brethren or the more parte of them do refuse or denye to pay the seyd xli. at the request off the seyd chamberlyns for the tyme beyng, that than yt shall be lafull for the mayr for the tyme beyng to put all suche offenders into ward ther to remane vntyll suche tyme as he or they haue payde theyre forfeiture, accordyng to thys acte, the on<sup>4</sup> halffe of whose forfeiture to be to the kynge our suffrayn lord and the other halffe to the chammbre of the towne.

p. 416. [*Absence from Common Hall.*] (The act renewed in similar terms to those above-noted Nos. XXXII. L. i.e. 1s. for each default from one of the XXIV. and 6d. from one of the XLVIII. and further) yf any man beyng of the XXIII<sup>t</sup> or of the XLVIII<sup>t</sup> do refuse

<sup>1</sup> chief rent.

<sup>2</sup> Low Sunday, Sunday after Easter.

<sup>3</sup> Henry Grey, 3rd Marquis of Dorset.

<sup>4</sup> on=one.



to paye the seyd forfetture to the chamberlyns for the tyme beyng that than yt shall be leffull for the mayr for the tyme beyng to comyt euery suche offendor or offenders to warde, they & eny of them, & ther to remane vntyll suche tyme as they or euery of them so offendynge haue payd euery suche forfyture, & yf the mayr be necligent or forgetfull in execucion of thys acte accordynge to the true meynynge therof, than the seyd mayr for the tyme beyng to forfyt iis. to the chamber of the towne, & the mayr that shall succede suche a mayr that so shall offend thys acte, shall haue power to leuy & gather the same forfyture, & yf he refuse to pay to the mayr the sayd forfeture, than the seyd mayr for the tyme beyng to comyt such offender to ward, ther to remayn vntyll suche tyme as he hathe payd all suche forfetture.

p. 418. [*The XLVIII. give to the expenditure on the Sheep-pens.*] At the same common hall yt was agred by the assent & consent of Mr Rob. Cotton then beyng mayr of the towne of Leicester & hys brethe[rn] namyd the XXIII<sup>t</sup> & the XLVIII<sup>th</sup>, that the same XLVIII<sup>t</sup> promysyd to pay toward the charges of the paiment of the sheppe pennes xli. & yt to be payd betwext thys & the feest of All Sents next folloyng, thes beyng sessores, the new chamberlyns for the next yere, (and 4 named).

[*Tenure of the Sheep-pens.*] At the same common hall yt was agred that whosoeuer entryd appon the sheppe pennes shold entur appon possessyon due euery yere & so to conteneew vnto that tyme twelue monythe & so to be occupied yerely from yere to yere at the chamberlens assygnement & not elles for the tyme beyng.

#### LXXXIII. *Doctor's Certificate.*

Hall Book I, p. 467. [Jan. 7, 1547.] Memorandum the vii<sup>t</sup> day of Januarii in the yer of the reigne of our Soueraigne lord Henri the Eyght by the grace of God of England, France & Ireland kyng, defender of the feythe & in erthe of the chirche of England & also of Ireland the supreme heede xxxviii, cam before me Robt. maye, mayre of the towne of Leicester and Robt. Cotton on<sup>1</sup> of the burgys of the seyd towne on<sup>1</sup> Petter De Moye Surgyon & ther confessyd at the same tyme that ther was no danger of dethe at that tyme in on<sup>1</sup> Joh. Sedwell whyche Sedwell the seyd petitioner had in cure at that tyme & thes wordes ware spokyn before me the seyd Robt. Maye, Robt. Cotton & other wytnesses as hereafter folloythe (six named), with other moo.

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<sup>1</sup> on = one.

LXXXIV. *Combürgess abjures the Mercers' Craft.*

Hall Book, p. 347. [Feb. 1, 1547.] Memorandum that the fyrst day of Februarii in the xxxviii<sup>th</sup> yere of the regne of our Soueraigne lord Kyng Henry the eyght<sup>1</sup> etc., com before me Rob. Maye mayre of the towne of Leicester, Mr Rob. Cotton on<sup>2</sup> of the combürgesses of the said towne & than & ther dyd promys before the seid Mr Mayre that he the seid Mr Cotton nor non for hym sholld occupye the occupacion of mercers craft within the seid towne of Leicester by the space of iii yeres next after the seid first day of Februarii & that the seid day Tho. Cotton dyd promyse to pay at Ester next comyng to the hondes off the seid Mr Cotton x*li*. & at Strubryge<sup>3</sup> Fayre next after that xvii*li*. thes beyng witnes. (No names follow.)

LXXXV. *Purchase of the Bailiwick.*

Book of Acts, p. 2. [May 13, 1547.] Memorandum that the fyrst yere of the raygne of our Soueraigne lord Kyng Edward the Sext etc. Mr Rob. Maye than beyng Mayor of the towne of Leycester about the xiii<sup>th</sup> day of May in the same yere the seyd town of Leycester dyd by on<sup>2</sup> assent condecend and agree with Mr Thomas Danet of Bronkyngesthorpe in the countye of Leycester aforeseyd esquier and baylley to our seyd soueraygne lord the king within the liberties of the seyd town of Leycester to bye the offyce of the seyd bayllywek of the seyd Thos. Danet, whyche seyd offyce the seyd Thos. Danet hathe by patent of our seyd soueraygne lord the kyng duryng the lyfe naturall of the seyd Thos. Danet and his assyngnes, whyche seyd towne payd to the seyd Thomas Danet for the redemyng of the seyd bayllywek in reddy money the some of foure score pounds of good and lafull money of Englaund, of the whyche foure score pounds one Thomas Dey clerk beyng borne within the same toune of Leycester and sometyme Cannon of the late monastery of our lady in Leycester and also prebendary of Sent Stevens at Westmynster of hys benevolent wyll dyd gyve towards the charges of the same payment the some of £20 (etc.).

<sup>1</sup> *Sic.* Henry VIII. was no longer reigning; he died Jan. 28, 1547.

<sup>2</sup> one.

<sup>3</sup> Stourbridge.

LXXXVI. *Charter of Edward VI.*

Roll 477. Nov. 26, 1547. Letters patent of Edward VI reciting John's charter [Vol. I. No. ix.], Edward III's grant of a fair [Vol. II. No. lxxi.], Richard II's confirmation of John's charter [Vol. II. No. cxxxiv.], Edward IV's grant of a fair [Vol. II. No. ccviii.], Edward IV's letters patent on the Justices of the Peace [Vol. II. No. cxcix.] and Henry VII's letters patent on the same [Vol. II. No. cclxiv.].

LXXXVII. *Levy of Horse Soldiers for the Scotch War.*

Book of Acts, p. 3. [Aug. 6, 1548.] *Jhesu.* Money gathered for the settinge forth of xi horsemen with Syr Rychard Manners, as men, horse, harness<sup>1</sup>, & money, vnto Scotland with the same, the sext day of August in the second yere of the reygne of ouer Soueraigne lord Kyng Edward the Sext etc. in the second tyme of maraltie of Randall Wood than beyng mayor.

Fyrst ther was payd for xi horse, x harnesses with other furnytur belonginge to the same men for ther settinge furthe the same tyme the some of xlviil*l*. iiis. viii*d*.

Item of the whych some of xlviil*l*. iiis. viii*d*. ther was gatherd as may appere of dyuers churches within the towne towards the same charges the some of xlviil*l*. iiis. iiiii*d*.

Fyrst receuyd of Mr Joh. Gatlyf, Henry Kyndersley, & Edmond Johnson, church wardens of Sent Peters towards the same charges the some of viiis. iiiii*d*.

Item recd. of Mr Robt. Newcom, Joh. Norrys, & Joh. Ollyf, church wardens of All Hallowes, towards the same charges the some of vi*l*l.

Item recd. of Raf Charles and Will. Roodes, church wardens of Sent Margyttes, towards the same charges the some of x*l*l.

Item recd. of Tho. Stanford, Tho. Parker, church wardens of Sent Nicholis, towards the same charges the some of iii*l*l.

Item recd. of Tho. Hallam & Edward Westes, church wardens of Sent Martyns, towards the same charges the some of xviii*l*l. xs.

Item recd. of Seyth Berredg & Robt. Burstall, church wardens of Sent Marys, towards the same charges the some of viii*l*l.

Wherof remanyng of the seyd some of xlviil*l*. iiis. iiiii*d*. ouer & aboue the seyd some of xlviil*l*. iiis. viii*d*. the some of xviiiis. viii*d*.

<sup>1</sup> equipment.

whyche seyd xviii. & viii*d*. was delyuerd to the hand of Ric. Darker & Ric. Dauy than beyng chamberlyns in the tyme of maraltye of Mr Nich. Reynold then beyng mayor.

Hall Book I, p. 430. [Aug. 13, 1549.] *Harnesse delyueryd to sertyn of the brethren by the haundes of Mr Gatlyf mayor to be safely kept to the towns vse tyll yt be nedfull to be occupied.*

*Mr Gyllot.* Memorandum that I Roger Gyllot one of the burgess of the towne of Leycester haue receuyd of Mr John Gatlyf mayor of the same towne of Leycester & by the consent of all hys brethren the XIII<sup>d</sup> day of August in the thyrd yere of the reigne of our soueraigne lord Kyng Edward the Sext &c., the number of iiij harness with ther furnytüre, that ys to say iiij alman revyttes<sup>1</sup>, iiij sallytes<sup>2</sup>, iiij gorgyttes<sup>3</sup>, iiij payre of splentes<sup>4</sup>, iiij boose<sup>5</sup>, iiij shefe of arrowes, with gyrdelles, iiij swordes with gyrdelles, to be delyueryd agayn to the vse of the town whan they shalbe lawfully demaundyd. In wytnes wherof I the seyd Roger hath subscribyd my name wyth my own hand the day & yer aboue seyd.

#### LXXXVIII. *Chamberlains' Accounts.*

Unnumbered roll. [1547—8.] Receipts £42. 14*s*. 0*d*.

*Fecs and other paments*....rent of the sheppe pennys to the kyngs maiestei officers £4....a fyrkyn of honnye gyuen to Mr Day...to the Jugge and hys clerk, for kepyng the sessyance<sup>6</sup> 10*s*....to Fraunces Mose<sup>7</sup> for making a pere of indentures for the burges of the parlyament...1*s*. 4*d*....wayttes gownes 36*s*....goldsmyth for mendyng of on<sup>8</sup> of the chamberlyns staues...4 men for 12 days dychyng in the Cowhey 12*s*. 2*d*....mendyng of the cage and the stokes 2*s*....bred and alle at the hall for the sodyers 6*d*....a lok at the old maires hall 2*d*....stoks at the north yate...Mr Mares clerk for wrytting of thys accompt 3*s*. 4*d*.

*Gyftes of wyne*....to the kynges maiestes viwtors<sup>9</sup> for chauntres<sup>10</sup> 2*s*. 4*d*....lord of Shrowsbere...lord of Rutland...lord Marques...Rob. Catlyn<sup>11</sup>...Mr Recorder...Mr Cave...byssshope of Lyncolne...Master Turner the precher...Mr Mannes at the muster...marques at the whyt hart...

The som of all the payments £31. 2*s*. 5½*d*.

So remeyne clere to the town in the fete of thys accompt £11. 11*s*. 6½*d*.

<sup>1</sup> Suits of light armour, with flexible plates sliding on rivets, first used in Germany.

<sup>2</sup> light head-pieces.

<sup>3</sup> armour for the throat.

<sup>4</sup> plates for the inside of the arm.

<sup>5</sup> bows.

<sup>6</sup> sessions.

<sup>7</sup> Mayor's clerk.

<sup>8</sup> one.

<sup>9</sup> ? viewers, ? vicetors, visitors.

<sup>10</sup> Chantries, dissolved by 1 Ed. VI. c. 14.

<sup>11</sup> bailiff.

Unnumbered roll. [1548—9.] *Rents...Chapmangyld.* Item receyuyd of Hamlet the neytherd for hys fredom 10s....sheppe pennes £8....of Mr Newcom baylle out of the bayllywek towards the mayntenaunts of the chamber of the town 40s....wardens of the occupacion of butchers for forfetts in ther occupacion...the tayllers...

*Chef rents payd out....*the late Deyn of Sent Marys for the new howse at the hye crosse....kyngs offycers for chef<sup>1</sup> of a howse between the brygges<sup>2</sup> 6*d*....to the tayllers for chef<sup>1</sup> of a house at the West brygge 1*s*. 8*d*.

*Fees and other paments....*wayghts gounes 37*s*. 6*d*....goldsmythe for an ownce of syluer and twelue pence ouer wayght for the reparacions of the wayghts collers and for the workmanshype 9*s*...mending the crosse of the mace 2*s*....my lord protectors<sup>3</sup> pleyrs at the commaundement of Mr Mayor 5*s*. Item paid to the kyngs mynstrells 5*s*....sargyants for gyveng attendance 2 days in the markyt 8*d*....taking up of a post horse 2*d*....dressyng of the corne wall...Fraunces Mose<sup>4</sup> for sewyng<sup>5</sup> for the coppy of the leese of Beamont lees<sup>6</sup> 5*s*. 4*d*....dressyng of tow harness<sup>7</sup> 8*d*....to my lord marques seruant with the dauncing horse 3*s*. 4*d*....chamberlyns staues...pursyuaunt for bryngyng downe sertyn proclamacion 1*s*....for naylles for setting up the same 1*d*....the dyner, as fyer, cokes wages, and all other thynges belongyng to Wheston Court 9*s*. 7*s*....to Mr Newcom for y<sup>e</sup> commission for y<sup>e</sup> gaolle delyuery 20*s*....

*Gyftes of wyne....*to the pottycary for makyng a gallon of ippocrasse<sup>8</sup> ...to my lady marques by mestres mayres and hur systers 4*s*....to the duchys of Suffolk<sup>9</sup>...my lord marques and my lord Admyrall<sup>10</sup>... Mr Maners...therle of Huntyngdon...therle of Shruesbery...lord marques whan he sat in commyssion for sheppe at the hall 1*s*. 6*d*.

*Reparacions....*to y<sup>e</sup> curryour of y<sup>e</sup> swan for 2 peces of tymber...for groncellyng<sup>11</sup>...makyng the cock stolle<sup>12</sup>...2 spars to hang the harnes apou at the halle 2*d*....lether and naylles for the same 3½*d*....to the couper for hangyng up the same harnes...clay to baylle house...

Sum £32. 3*s*. 10*d*....clere to the town...£14. 12*s*. 4*d*.

<sup>1</sup> chief-rent.

<sup>2</sup> Outside the North Gate.

<sup>3</sup> Duke of Somerset.

<sup>4</sup> clerk of the Mayor.

<sup>5</sup> suing.

<sup>6</sup> See No. xciv.

<sup>7</sup> two suits of armour.

<sup>8</sup> medicated wine.

<sup>9</sup> Frances Brandon, wife of Henry Marquis of Dorset.

<sup>10</sup> Thomas Seymour, d. March 20, 1549.

<sup>11</sup> making foundations.

<sup>12</sup> cuckingstool.

LXXXIX. *Letter of Francis Earl of Huntingdon on the raising of archers and gunners*<sup>1</sup>.

Book of Acts, p. 5. [Nov. 14, 1549.] The cōpy of my lord of Huntyn̄dons letter sent to Mr Mayor & hys brethren with the eyght & forty as herafter follothe....

To my assuered frendes the mayor of Leycester and hys brethren & to euery of them geve this wythe spede.

After my ryght harty commendacons thes be to aduertise you that I am commaundyd by the kynges maiestie and hys moste honorable counsell to serue in the parties beyond the sees wythe suche a numbere as to me by them ys appoyntyd, to be ther generall captane in the holl jurney; of whych numbere I am assygnyd to haue of myne owne furnytūre CCC able men, they to be lewyed by vertu of the kynges maiesties highe commysson vnder hys brod scale of my frendes, favorers, tenauntes and seruantes; and for that I haue at all tymes rekynd you to be my very frendes, as heretofore I haue approvyd the same: Therfore nowe I hartely requyre yow to furnyshe vnto me to serue in thys jurney suche and as many able men wherof as many of them to be good archers and gunners well furnysshyd with armour, wepons, mony & horses to serue them to the See syde as ye may convenyently make<sup>2</sup>; and ther horses shalbe sent home to you agayne; and that I may be assueryd from you to haue them here at London with me within x days; for my tyme ys but XIII dayes to tarye here before I take my leave of the kynges maiestie and hys honorable counsell to accomplyshe hys Graces plesure and commaundement in hys affayers; and your frendshyps to me shewed at this presente schall bynd me in frendschype towards you euery of yow duryng my lyf; and thus I byd you hartely farewell; wrytten the XIII<sup>th</sup> of Novembre, 1549.

Your frend

Fraunces Huntyn̄gdon.

p. 7. (List of moneys gathered for Lord Huntingdon Nov. 19, 1549: 5s. each from the Four-and-twenty and sums varying from 1s. to 2s. 8d. from the Eight-and-forty.)

Ib. p. 9. [Nov. 21, 1549.] The cōpy of the quyttaunce that was gyven for the receyte of xli. that my lord of Huntingdon had as herafter follothe:

<sup>1</sup> Quoted in Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 230, and Nichols IV. i. App. p. 393.

<sup>2</sup> make=levy.

This byll mayd the XXI<sup>t</sup> day of Nouembre in the thyrde yere of the reygne of ouer soueraigne lord Edward the Sext by the grace of God of England Fraunce and Ireland kyng, defendor of the feythe & in erthe of the church of England & also of Ireland the supreme head, wyttnessythe that Robt. Temple seruant to Master Tho. Hastynges<sup>1</sup> the day & yere aboue seyd haue receuyd & had by the handes of Mr Nich. Reynold mayor of the town of Leycester of the benevolent wyll of the seyd mayor & hys breth[e]rn namyd the XXIII<sup>t</sup> & the XLVIII<sup>t</sup> in the name of the holl body of the seyd town of Leycester the some of ten poundes of good & lawfull money of England towards the furnytur of CCC men into bullyon<sup>2</sup> wythe th'Erle of Huntynghdon, of the whych seyd some I the seyd Robt. knoleged myself to haue receuyd, & the seyd mayor hys breth[e]rn & XLVIII<sup>t</sup> therof dothe acquyet by these presentes for euer. In wytnes wherof the seyd Robt. hathe subscribyd my name & setto my seale the day & yere aboue seyd—

by me Robt. Temple.

XC. *Slandering the Mayor.*

Hall Book I, p. 433. [Nov. 22, 1549.] Memorandum the XXII<sup>t</sup> day of Nouembre in the thyrde yere of the reigne of our soueraigne lord Kyng Edward the Sext &c., Tho. Cock of the towne of Leycester, horsecouser<sup>3</sup>, in the oppyn stret dyd myseve<sup>4</sup> hymself agaynst Nich. Reynold then beyng mayor of the towne of Leycester with many & dyuers vnsemely wordes; and than the same Tho. Cock was commaundyd to ward for hys so dysobeyng & ther was punysshyd for hys offence; & apon the entretyng of Mr Gyllot, Master Wode & Master Cotton beyng Justices of the peace, the same Nich. Reynold beyng mayor, dyd put the matter holly vnto them to vse the same as they thowgh[t] conveyent & apon the same the seyd Tho. Cock cam before the seyd Justices & was sore<sup>5</sup> for hys dyssobedyence, knowlegyd hys offence, & promysyd before the same Justices neuer to vse hymself so any more.

<sup>1</sup> The Earl's brother.

<sup>2</sup> Boulogne.

<sup>3</sup> *N.E.D.* horse courser, jobbing dealer in horses, Lat. cociator, O. Fr. cossour.

<sup>4</sup> misuse = misconduct.

<sup>5</sup> sore = sorry.

XCI. *Letter of thanks from the Earl of Huntingdon*<sup>1</sup>.

Book of Acts, p. 9. [Nov. 25, 1549.] *The answere of the letter sent for the receypt of the seyde money.* After my ryght hartye commendacions: sygnyfyeng you that I haue receyuyd from you concernyng my late requests made vnto you for my sodayn affayres beyond the sees, wherby I perceue the louyng frendly & hartye good wyll of you and euery of you to me wards; wherfore I hartely thank you, & wylbe glad whan yt shall plesse God to send me prosperous retorne and vs merye metyng, to shew you and euery of you semblable plesure; and for that I can not be in the countrey thys Crystmas to haue the company of you, wherof I wold haue bene glad, my trustye seruant Mychell Purpherey shall delyuer you for a token, whan so euer you shall call apon hym, from me, two does to make merye with at your plesures; and thus I byd you all hartely farewell, from my house in London the xxv<sup>t</sup> of this present Nouembre, 1549.

Your frend assured

Fraunces Huntyngdon.

XCII. *Surgeon's Fee.*

Hall Book I, p. 435. Memorandum the fyrst day of Decembre in the thyrd yere of the reigne of our soueraigne lord Kyng Edward the Sext &c. cam before me Rog. Gyllot, then beyng leftenaunt for Mr Nich. Reynold mayor, on<sup>2</sup> Symon de Moye otherwyse callyd Symon Mey sorgyon & [blank] Browne the wyf of Tho. Browne, clerke; & than and ther the seyde [blank] payd to the seyde Symon for a cure whyche he dyd apon seyde Tho. Browne the some of twenty seven shyllynges ouer & besyde thre shyllynges whyche he haue before, and ther before me the seid Roger knolegyd hymself fully content & payd for the seid cure etc....

<sup>1</sup> Quoted in Thompson, p. 231, and Nichols iv. i. App. p. 393.

<sup>2</sup> one.



XCIII. *Homagers' Presentments.*

Book of Acts, p. 22. [Feb. 19, 1550.] Memorandum the xix<sup>t</sup> day of February in the fourthe yere of the reigne of ouer soueraigne lord Edward the Sext by the grace of God etc. Robt. Newcom mayor of the towne of Leycester, Rog. Gyllot, Hugh Astone and Robt. Cotton, Justices of the peace within the lybertes of the same towne, for the mayntenaunce, supportacion, and good order of the kynges maiestes statutes callyd *Statutum de Forestallis*<sup>1</sup> to be lawfully and justely frequentyd and vsyd accordyng to the olde tyme accustomyd, dyd call before them xii trwe able and lawfull men whose names folloyth—

Homagium pro domino Rege<sup>2</sup>: (13 names): sworn.

*Veredictum* †*homagium*<sup>3</sup>†. Fyrst the same xii men dothe present Christofer Brown for keypyng of an alle gallon and a quarte to lytell<sup>4</sup> iid.

Ric. Hewys for keypyng tow pottell wynepottes and tow pynt pottes to lyttell iiiid.

Will. Clowgh for keypyng of a tow pound ston and a quarter to lyght iid.

Henry Catter for a pound ston and a tow pound ston to lyght iid.

Hewgh Armeston for a tow pound ston to lyght and another to heyvy iid.

Will. Odam for keypyng of an ostrey<sup>5</sup> mesure in hys howse of strawe<sup>6</sup> iiiid.

Joh. Roose for keyng in hys ostrey on<sup>7</sup> half stryk<sup>8</sup>, a pottell, a quart, and a pynt mesure of strawe<sup>6</sup> iiiid....

Ric. Mabley for a gallon vnscallyd, an ostrey peck of strawe<sup>6</sup> iiiid.  
(And 12 others similarly.)

XCIV. *Beaumont Leys suit and other expenses.*

Book of Acts, p. 15. [Feb. 20, 1550.] Money gathred for the sewt of Beaumont Leyse<sup>9</sup> at tow tymes in the tyme of maraltye of Mr Robt. Newcom the xx<sup>t</sup> day of February in the fourthe yere of the reigne of ouer soueraigne lord kynge Edwarde the Sexte etc. as

<sup>1</sup> Statute of Forestallers, and so below, No. xcvi. but there seems to be a mistake. The statutes of weights and measures, e.g. 11 Henry VII. c. 4, do not refer to forestalling.

<sup>2</sup> The homage for the lord King: the "homage" was the name of the jury of inquest in a Court Baron; here the Portmoot Jury seems to be treated as quasi-manorial.

<sup>3</sup> Verdict of the homage.

<sup>4</sup> corr. from "lyght."

<sup>5</sup> ostrey=an inn.

<sup>6</sup> It should have been of wood.

<sup>7</sup> one.

<sup>8</sup> strike=a bushel.

<sup>9</sup> See below, No. xcvi.

folloythe, that ys to say at tow tymes gatherd of euery on of the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> iis. apece, at a tyme, and of euery on<sup>1</sup> of the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> at euery tyme xii*d.* apece.

Item gatherd at bothe tymes goynge to London for the sewt of Beamont Leyse the some of ix*li.* viiis. wherof spent by Mr Stanford and Ric. Woodward at the fyrst tyme for the same sewt the some of iii*li.* xvs. viii*d.*

Item more spent (etc.).

Item of the same money that was bowght by Mr Stanford and Ric. Wodward a payr of wayghtes & scolles<sup>2</sup> for to wey bred the price ix*s.* iiiii*d.*

Item of the same more payd by Mr Standford & Ric. Wodward to Mr Beamont<sup>3</sup> for tow commysson of oyer & determyner for sewyng forthe & renewynge, liiis. iiiii*d.*

Item gyven to my lord Marques Dorset by Mr Mayor hys brethren and the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> ii geldynges whan he went into the northe contrey, the pryce of xvi*li.* xiiis. iiiii*d.*

That ys to say euery on<sup>1</sup> of the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> paid to the same charges vs. apece and the eyght and forty iis. vi*d.* apece whyche comyth to the some of xi*li.* xvs.

And the rest was payd by the churchys & by the chamberlyns of the towne as dothe apere by the chamberlyns account.

#### XCV. *Weights and Measures examined.*

Book of Acts, p. 11. [March 1, 1550.] Memorandum the fy[r]ste day of Merch in the fourth yere of the reygne of ouer soueraygne lord Edward the Sext by the grace of God of England, Fraunce and Ireland kyng, defendor of the feyth and in erth of the church of England and also of Ireland the supreme head:—Nich. Reynold then beyng mayor of the town of Leycester, Roger Gyllot, Heugh Aston, Robt. Cotton, & John Gatlyf, Justyces of the peace of our seyde soueraygne lord the kyng wythein the lybertes of the same town of Leycester, for the mayntenance supportacion and good order of the kynges maiesteis statutes callyd *statutum de forestallis*<sup>4</sup> to be lawfully and justly frequentyd and vsyd accordyng to the old tyme accustomed, dyd calle before them the same day al maner of mettes<sup>5</sup> and mesures wythin the quarte[r] callyd the sowth quarter beyng wythin the ward of Mr Hugh Aston that ys to say without the Sowthe gate.

<sup>1</sup> one.

<sup>2</sup> scales.

<sup>3</sup> John Beaumont, Recorder.

<sup>4</sup> See above, p. 61, note 1.

<sup>5</sup> measures of length.

[March 7, 1550.]...ward of Mr Rog. Gyllot and Mr Nich. Heyrek beyng aldermen of the ward between the Hye Crosse and Est yate and the Est yate and Sent Mertyns church callyd the Church gate wyth Losebe Lane etc.

[March 12, 1550.]...of Mr Ouerend & Mr Manbe beyng aldermen of the warde between the Hye Crosse & the West brygg callyd Sent Nycholas quarter & also between the Hye Crosse and the Sowthe gate.

p. 13. [March 14, 1550.]...of Mr Wylcokes and Mr Dainport beyng aldermen of the wardes callyd Satterday markyt and also a gate callyd Gallowtreay Gate etc.

[March 19, 1550.]...of Mr Newton and Mr Smythe beyng aldermen between the Hye Crosse and the North gate and between the North gate and Sent Sonday brygg<sup>1</sup> wythe Senvy gate callyd y<sup>e</sup> North quarter.

[March 20, 1550.]...of Mr Robt. Cotton wythout the Est gate callyd Belgrave Gate etc.

[June 13, 1550.] Memorandum the xiii<sup>th</sup> day of June in the yere aforeseyd before the seyde mayor and Justyces was browght in all yardes, elles and wayghtes within the lybertes of the towne of Leycester as afore seyde etc.

#### XCVI. *Chamberlains' Account.*

Unnumbered roll. [1549—50.] *Rents ... Receipts ...* towards the common cart<sup>2</sup> (in 3 wards) 11s. 3d....Sum £47. 18s. 2d.

*Fees....*to mestres mayres for tow sessyons deners 13s. 4d....to London for the Bemant leyse<sup>3</sup> 30s....Expenses that Mr Beaumont<sup>4</sup>...toke at the Angell...comysion of oyer and determiner 23s. 3d....to Mr Beaumont for changyng certain names in the same comynysson...at the eatyng of tow doose<sup>5</sup> that my lord of Huntynghdon gave 3s. 4d....shyftyng of the formes out of the maires hall into sent Johnys<sup>6</sup>...the kyngs Jester 3s. 4d....my lord marques berward 2s....surveyng of the towne land in the countrey...to a man that stode upon the west bryge to take away the pore folkes wod<sup>7</sup>...for mercyments for lack of apperaunte<sup>8</sup> at Whitwek court<sup>9</sup> 4d.

<sup>1</sup> Saint Sunday's Bridge at the North end, etc.: see Throsby, p. 356: that the name is a translation of Dominicus, see *Eng. Hist. Rev.* XVIII. 162—3.

<sup>2</sup> for carting whores.

<sup>3</sup> See No. xciv.

<sup>4</sup> Recorder.

<sup>5</sup> does.

<sup>6</sup> late St John's Hospital.

<sup>7</sup> See below, No. cxiv.

<sup>8</sup> appearance.

<sup>9</sup> for lands in Whetstone.

*Gyftes of wyne*....marques Dorcet at hys goyng up to London the Fryeday after sent Dennes day<sup>1</sup>...when he cam from London in Lent...Item paid for a gallon of wyne gyven to my lady Jane<sup>2</sup> 1s. 4d....straberes<sup>3</sup> and wyne for my lades grace gyven by mestris merys and hur systers 2s. 6d.

*Reparacions*....scoweryng the Cowhey dyche 5s. 4d....peyntyng of the same (mayres) hall with scripturs and the kynges armes 28s....to John Barbor more for peyntyng the same hall with antyck work 15s. 2d....the bay wyndow in the maires hall...pavyng of the west brygg 27s. 4d.

*The Som* of all the paments £39. 10s. 7d....clere to the towne £8. 4s. 3d.

#### XCVII. *Lease of the Sheep Pens.*

Hall Book I, p. 439. [Jan. 16, 1551.] At the same common hall yt was ordyned, esstablysshed & agreed by Robt. Newcom mayor of the towne of Leycester & hys brethren namyd the XXIIII<sup>ti</sup> & the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> in the name of the holl body of the same towne, that Rychard Hewys appon hys promyse mayd in the same common halle that the seyd Richard, by hymselfe or by hys suffycyent depute or deputies, shall occupye the sheppe pennys from Care<sup>4</sup> Sondag next vntyll My(c)helmas day at nyght next after, so that the seyd Ric. Hewys shalle stand chargyd for the holl rent, wyche ys eyght poundes & so from yere to yere duryng the—[MS. cut away].

#### XCVIII. *The Company pays for the Beaumont Leys suit.*

Hall Book I, p. 440. [Jan. 16, 1551.] At the same common halle yt was agreed by the holle assent, consent, & agrement of the seyd mayor hys brethern namyd the XXIIII<sup>ti</sup> & the holl XLVIII<sup>ti</sup>, that towards the charges of the sewt for the agestment<sup>5</sup> in Beaumonte leyse, euery on<sup>6</sup> of the XXIIII<sup>ti</sup> shall pay iis. apece, & euery on<sup>6</sup> of the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> to pay towards the same charges xiid. apece & dothe promyse at altymes to pay more yf more shall nede towards the same charges.

The names of them that must ryde to London for the sewte of the same (4 names).

<sup>1</sup> Oct. 9.

<sup>2</sup> Lady Jane Grey.

<sup>3</sup> strawberries.

<sup>4</sup> Fifth Sunday in Lent = Carling Sunday, carlings = dried peas.

<sup>5</sup> agistment, right to feed cattle.

<sup>6</sup> one.

XCIX. *Mr Danet and the Bailiwick.*

Hall Book I, p. 440. [Jan. 16, 1551.] At the same common hall yt was agreed by the holl assent of the mayor, hys brethern & the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> in the name of the holl body of the towne that whereas Mr Robt. Newcom now mayor of the same towne of Leycester and Mr Nich. Reynold dothe stande bondon to Mr Tho. Danet for the bayllywek of the towne of Leycester, the seid XXIII<sup>ti</sup> & the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> dothe promyse to bynd the towne land of Leycester to the seid Master Newcom for to dyscharge hym of hys bonde aganst the seid Mr Danet.

C. *Fencing and Ditching the Cowhay<sup>1</sup>.*

Hall Book I, p. 443. [Feb. 27, 1551.] At the same comon hall yt was condycendyd & agreede by Robt. Newcom mayor of the towne of Leycester his brethren namyd the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> & the holl XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> in the name of the holl body of the same towne, that euery man havying any cattall goyng or pasturyng within the Cowhey shall fynde yerly, whan nede shall requyre, a man to worke a days worke about the same for the fensyng & safe kepyeng of the same pasture, or elles euery man so refusyng to pay to the chamberlyns for the tyme beyng after the rate as ther men do hyer, & than the seid chamberlyns to hyer a man & set hym awork for hym towards the reparacons & dychyng of the seid Cow Hey, apon peyn of euery man doying the contrary to forfet [&] pay to the chamber of the seid towne for euery best that any suche person hathe goyng in the seid pasture vid.

CI. *Grant to the poor of pasture rights (in Beaumont Lcys<sup>2</sup>).*

Book of Acts, p. 17<sup>3</sup>. [April 20, 1551.] The graunte of John Corbet gentellman, made the xx<sup>th</sup> day of Apryll before the right honourable Henry Lord Marques Dorssett, in the fyfth yer of the raigne of ouer most drad Soveraigne Lord Edward the Sixthe by the grace of God of England Fraunce and Ireland king, Defender of the faithe and in earthe supream head of the church of England and also of Ireland.

<sup>1</sup> Quoted in Nichols iv. i. App. p. 393.

<sup>2</sup> Nichols iv. i. App. p. 394.

<sup>3</sup> Another copy, p. 18.

First the said Corbet doth graunte that the poore people of Leycestre shall haue theire mylche kye goinge wekely from Maye Daye till Lammas<sup>1</sup> after the rate of thre halpence the weke for every of them, and the riche to paye for every milche cowe wekelye after the rate of iiii<sup>d</sup>. the pece.

Also the said Corbet dothe graunte that the poore people of Leicester shall haue theire labouring horses going from May Daye till Lammas after the rate of iiii<sup>d</sup>. the weke the pece. And the riche to paye for theire labouringe horses from May Day till Lammas after the rate of iiii<sup>d</sup>. the wyke for the pece.

And so to haue theim going from yere to yere as long as the said Corbet dothe occupye it after the rate before specified.

In wytnes whereof the said Corbet hathe set to his hand an seale the daye and yere fyrst above wryten:—by me John Corbett.

## CII. *Provision of Posthorses.*

Book of Acts, p. 20. [Sept. 6, 1551.] Money gathred for the fyndyng of foure post horses in the tyme of marelyte of Mr Robert Newcom the sext day of September in the fyft yere of the reigne of our soueraigne lord kynge Edward the Sext &c. wyche horses be at the keypyng and charges of Mr Jenkynson and Seythe Berrage, with all thynges belongyng vnto them as horses, gydes, saddelles, brydelles, & so the<sup>2</sup> be at charges with the keypyng of the same horses for the dyscharge of the towne from thys present day vntyll Crystmas next comyng and to haue for the keypyng of the same for that tyme the some of viii. xiiis. iiii<sup>d</sup>.

Item the seid some of sex poundes thyrten shylynges foure pence to be payd as hereafter followythe:—(List of 72 names: four and twenty pay 3s. 4d. each, the eight and forty 1s. 8d. each).

## CIII. *Inventory of Town Plate, Books and Armour<sup>3</sup>.*

Book of Acts, p. 23. [Sept. 20, 1551.] These parcelles are remyenyng in the towne to be delyueryd from mayor to mayor for the townes vse as followythe in the tyme of maralty of Mr Newcom.

Item on<sup>4</sup> greyt mace, iiii lyttell maces, on lock boke<sup>5</sup>, a purse with fyve keys and the mayors sealle therin, iii bokes for the common hall<sup>6</sup>,

<sup>1</sup> Aug. 1.

<sup>2</sup> the = they.

<sup>3</sup> Quoted in Nichols iv. i. App. p. 394.

<sup>4</sup> on = one.

<sup>5</sup> The Locked Book, now extant.

<sup>6</sup> The Hall Books.

on gret paper boke for a regester, tow bokes of thactes of parlyament<sup>1</sup>, on bagg with a pylle<sup>2</sup> waght for bred after Troy waght of iiii pound, a bagg of brasyn wayghtes from syx pounde to half a pound, on brasyn standerd, on brasyn stryke, on brasyn gallon, on payr of scolles<sup>3</sup> for bred.

Also ther ys remaynyng in the chamberlyns handes at the same day to the townes vse these parcelles followyng:—

Item tow chamberlyns staves with knoppes of sylver, three collers of syluer for the wayghtes weyng—, on key of the coffer wher the eydenes lyethe, the charter<sup>4</sup> & the common sealle.

Also ther remaynythe in the towne hall at the same day to the townes vse these parcelles followyng:—

Item xx<sup>t</sup> alman revyttes with splentes, sallytes, & gorgetes<sup>5</sup>.

Item xix<sup>t</sup> shef of arrowys with caces and gyrdelles.

Item on byll, tow bowys, viii<sup>t</sup> swordes, three daggers.

#### CIV. *Chamberlains' Account.*

Unnumbered roll. [1550—1.] *Rents...Receipts.* Chapmans gylde ...for fredom...for setting up his occupacyon...of Bodycotes of Wheston for a relief<sup>6</sup> for the deyth of his fater 2s. 8*d.* for land that he holdythe of the town by knyghts seruyce...for the bayllywyke of the towne 40s....for an oliue tree at the North bryge...of the posthors money that was gatherd of Mr Mayor and his brethren...*Receipts* £56. 4s. 1½*d.*

*Decays...Chef rent* payd out...to the baylley of the lands that †belongynge † to the Newark...baylley of thawgmentacion<sup>7</sup> rents for chef<sup>8</sup> of a howse between the brygges in the north gate 6*d.*

*Fees...*watchyng of the prisoners in ganesborow<sup>9</sup> at the gaolle delyuere 9s. 4*d.*...pursyvaunt for bryngyng certyn proclamacions the 19 day of June 5s....paid for the gettingyng forth of the coppis of Mr Wygestons wyll...to Fraunces Mose for makyng of tow supli-cacions that was gyven to my lord marques and my lord of Huntyngdon for the commons in sent margyts parishe 3s. 4*d.*...tow bookes of the holl statutes 26s. 4*d.*...payntyng of the Chamberlyns staves 10*d.*; goldsmythe for makyng new of the knoppes of the

<sup>1</sup> MS. collections of statutes still extant.

<sup>2</sup> pile.

<sup>3</sup> scales.

<sup>4</sup> Probably Henry VIII's charter.

<sup>5</sup> See above, p. 56, and notes.

<sup>6</sup> relief, feudal death-duty.

<sup>7</sup> paid to the augmentation office from dissolved religious houses.

<sup>8</sup> chief rent.

<sup>9</sup> The Gainsborough.

same staves and for the syluer that went to them 18s....brod arrow to the kings majestes audytours for the but close 4*d*....my lord marques pleyres of Northampton<sup>1</sup> 30 Nov. 2s. 8*d*....recordyng the charter for toolle<sup>2</sup> at Lynne 2s....recordynge of the same at Styrbryge fayre 2s....ernest of the post horses 4*d*....mestres meyres for the sessyons dynner at May day 6s. 8*d*....my lord of Huntyngdon berward 21 March 8*d*....Fraunces Mose for syttyng at the hall with Mr Mayer and the Clerk of the markyt 3s. 4*d*....for the towne stryke, for the cheynes and irones and a hoope 4s. 8*d*....paid for the horsys that was gyven to my lord marques more than was gathred for them £3. 15s. 4*d*....tow collers for the same...1s. 8*d*....our expens at Whytwek court<sup>3</sup> 1s....dychyng of the Kowe hey 3s. 4*d*....makyng of the paywment aganst J. W.'s dore 13s. 4*d*....removyng of the gybbyt 1s. 10*d*....to my lord Cromwell<sup>4</sup>...Judges...secke<sup>5</sup>, Mr Hastings sherrof...therlle of Huntyndon...wyne and frute 6s. 8*d*....to my lady of Warwyk and my lady of Huntyngdon at y<sup>e</sup> Newark the 7 day of Nov....my lord Cromwell and Sir Ric. Manners at the Angell...to Mr Beamont at Belgrave.. my lord Marques at thabbey 2 Ap....my lord of Shrowsebere at thanell...my lord John Grey<sup>6</sup>, my lady Grey and my lade Mary<sup>7</sup> a gallon and half of wyne, pescodds, and appylls 4s. 4*d*.  
*Reparacions*...Kowhey yate...old meres hall...lock for y<sup>e</sup> Cage...  
*Sum* £35. 9s. 4*d*. So rest cler £20. 14. 9½*d*.

#### CV. *Ordinance against bough breaking.*

Hall Book I, p. 447<sup>8</sup>. [Nov. 20, 1551.] At the same common hall yt was condycendyd & agreed by Tho. Wilcock mayor of the towne of Leycester & his brethren namyd the XXIII<sup>t</sup> & the holl XLVIII<sup>t</sup> in the name of all the holl body of the same towne, that yf ther be any man, woman or chylde takyn or knowne to haue brokyn or cut downe in the sommer tyme or any other tyme any ocke bowse<sup>9</sup>, hawthorne bowse, or any other bowse, to set at ther dores or wyndows, out of any close, gardyn or orcheyarde about this towne of Leycester, or within the libertes of the same, to forfet for euery tyme taken or provyd wythe suche defeaute xiid. & ther bodies to pryson [ther to remayn duryng Mr Mayer will & plesure<sup>10</sup>].

<sup>1</sup> William Parr, Marquis of Northampton, brother of Queen Katherine Parr.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. No. CVII. below. <sup>3</sup> See above, p. 41, note 3. <sup>4</sup> Henry Cromwell, a Justice.

<sup>5</sup> sack.

<sup>6</sup> younger brother of the Marquis of Dorset, Henry Grey.

<sup>7</sup> probably their niece Lady Jane Grey's sister.

<sup>8</sup> And in Book of Acts, p. 36.

<sup>9</sup> oak boughs.

<sup>10</sup> Added in Book of Acts.



CVI. *Scheme to get Land for the Free School; also to get the Bailiwick in Fee Farm, and to join the Bishop's Fee to Leicester.*

Hall Book I, p. 447. [Mar. 11, 1552.] At the same common hall yt was agred by Tho. Wilcok mayor of the towne of Leycester, his brethren & the holl XLVIII<sup>ti</sup>, that labor sholde be mayd ymmedyatly to London to se yf they cold get the land that was gyven by the bysshoppe of Carlell<sup>1</sup> to fynde a free scole in Leycester in the paryshe of Sent Margyt, whiche land Mr Joh. Beamont<sup>2</sup> hathe xii yeres past sold away, & also to get the bayllywyk of the towne of Leycester in fee farme to the towne, & also to get the bysshoppes fee joynyd with the seid towne of Leicester, & hath sent vp for the same Mr Bowghton clerk<sup>3</sup> and Will. Alysander, whose charges the paryshe of Sent Margytes berythe the on halfe, & the towne the other halfe.

CVII. *Freedom from Toll.*

Box 7 A, No. 5. June 9, 1552. Copy of a record that Will. Manby grocer of Leicester came before the Mayor of Pontefract and there discharged all the inhabitants of Leicester from toll in that borough by shewing Her Majesty's charter. (Signed and certified by W. Dethick as in accordance with the original.)

CVIII. *The Companies to begin cloth-making.*

Hall Book I, p. 449. [June 20, 1552.] At the same comon hall yt was condicendyd & agreed by Tho. Wylcoke mayor of the towne of Leycester & his brethren namyd the XXIIII<sup>ti</sup> and the holl XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> that the seid XXIIII<sup>ti</sup> shall make yerly within the seid towne of Leycester euery on by himself tow carseys<sup>4</sup> to the intent to set the pore of<sup>5</sup> work, that the seid XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> shall make yerly euery on of them by hymself one carsey, which carseys shall conteyn in lengthe xviii yardes apece & that euery suche carsey, after that yt be maid & fynnyshed, be browght to the mayores hall ther to be seallyd, & that euery man makyng defaute in this behalf and not makyng suche carseys as before ys seid, to lose & forfeyt for euery suche defaute ether for makyng or seallyng iiis. iiiid. to the vse of the pore mans box.

<sup>1</sup> ? Robert Aldrich, bp. 1537—1556. He had been Provost of Eton. The history of this gift seems to be unknown. Nichols ascribes it to John Penny, 1509—20, iv. i. App. pp. 394, 511.

<sup>2</sup> See note above. On his corrupt practices see *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

<sup>3</sup> Vicar of St Martin's.

<sup>4</sup> kerseys.

<sup>5</sup> of = on.

CIX. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1551—2.] *Rents...Receipts...* Mr Overende for refusyng the occupyence of the bayllywek of Leycester 40s....Mr Wylcocks towards the charges of the hogshed of wyne that was gyven to my lord grace<sup>1</sup> 16s....wardyns of occupacion of butchers...of bakers...£53. 14s. 6½*d.*

*Rent paid out...* to the tayllors for ground in St Nicholas parish.

*Fees and other payments...* for a hoggshead of claret wyne that was gyven to my lord of Suffolks grace 50s....for payntyng in Mr Meres chappell for the mace 1s....for an yorne<sup>2</sup> to hange the mace in ther 3*d.*... a payre of bootes for Ric. Woodward whan he went to London 5s.... Mr Audytor for entryng the butt close into his bokes 3s. 4*d.*...for bryngyng a comyssyon for the church goods 1s. 8*d.*...for keypyng the dryft<sup>3</sup> of the Cowe pasture 4*d.*...expences that went to the buck that my lady of Huntynghdon gave to the XLVIII<sup>t</sup> whych was ordeyned at the hall for the Company<sup>4</sup> and they cam not because of the play that was in the church, whych with bred, alle, flower, pepper, bakyng and other charges amountyth to the some of 10s.

*Gyfts of wyne...* to Mr Hunt recorder whan he was at the Crose Keys...Judges at Myhelmas syse...Judges at Mr Davynport in Lent... my lady Huntynghdon...Sir Ambrose Cave...

*Reparacions...* to the Antelope brydge...at the olde hall in sent Nicholis parysshe...

*Sum...* £39. 0s. 8*d.*...clere to the chamber of the towne £14. 13s. 10½*d.*

CX. *Ordinance for the Cowhay.*

Hall Book, p. 455, and Book of Acts, p. 36. [May 19, 1553.] At a common hall holdyn ther the XIX<sup>th</sup> day of May in the VII<sup>th</sup> yer of the reigne of oure soueraigne lord Kyng Edward the Sext &c., at the same common hall yt ys agreed before Nich. Heirek than mayor of the towne of Leicester & the more parte of his brethren namyd the XXIII<sup>th</sup> & the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> in the name of the holl body of the same towne that from henseforthe ther shall no maner of person within this towne of Leicester or subberbes of the same, put any maner of cattall into the common pasture callyd y<sup>e</sup> Cow Hey, but only tow kye apece at the most; for lack of tow kye to put in a cow & tow calves, callyd heyforde<sup>5</sup> calves, so that they be hys owne knowne, & nother<sup>6</sup> ox-calf,

<sup>1</sup> Duke of Suffolk.

<sup>2</sup> yorne = iron.

<sup>3</sup> for the driving and collecting of cattle in order to see that all the cattle found therein were entitled to common.

<sup>4</sup> The Company of Forty-eight.

<sup>5</sup> heifer.

<sup>6</sup> neither.

oxe, nor stere to be put into the seid pasture ; & yf yt be so that ther be any man that haue not a cow or tow of his owne to put into y<sup>e</sup> same pasture, than yt shalbe lefull for any man beyng a freman to hyer one mylche cowe or tow to put into the same pasture & not to put into the same pasture any barron kye of any manes or womans, except they be his owne, to thentent vnder a coller to hyer<sup>1</sup> the one cow to fynde hym the pasturyng of the other barron cow, vppon payn<sup>2</sup> of euery man betwext May Day & Lammas for the fyrst tyme hauynge lawfull warnynge to forfeit iis. vi<sup>d</sup>., the secounde tyme vs., the thyrde tyme to lose his fredome and this acte was maide in the presense of these persones followyng :

(A list of 48 names follows.)

### CXI. *Whetstone leases renewed.*

Hall Book I, p. 456. [May 19, 1553.] List of a number of leases of Whetstone farms renewed for 21 years.

### CXII. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1552—3.] *Rents...Chapmans gild...receuyd* for the chantrey vessell<sup>3</sup> 26s. 8d....(leases renewed)...Mr Overend for refusyng thoffyce of the maraltye...for the bayllywek...£17. 18s. 5d.

*Fees* etc....Mr Hunt Recorder...Mr F. Mose<sup>4</sup>...to Mr Audytor at the Castell for a rewarde for the but close 5s....to Lokwod the kynges Jester 2s....Duke of Northumberland players 5s....carryege of a pore lame woman to Belgrave...to Mr Mayer for to make up the fyftene<sup>5</sup> that lackyd 1s. 8d....paid to my lord John<sup>6</sup> man for bryngyng the venyson 5s....Rob. Hyll for bryngyng tydyngs that my lorde was set at lyberte<sup>7</sup> 2s....for a byll to set uppon the crosse for sertyn stuff...when we went to Wheston to make a tarrye<sup>8</sup> of our lande...for takyng a stresse<sup>9</sup>...a coppye of Sir John Hards will 3s. 4d....recorder for his concell at London betwen Mr Manbe and the towne 6s. 8d....(the same) to be our attorney ther 5s....for 4 papers to set uppon the crosse for the punyshement of horedom<sup>10</sup> and brybere<sup>11</sup> 10d....to Mr Cotton for his charges to London at the parlyament beyng burges

<sup>1</sup> = under colour of hiring.

<sup>2</sup> "of losynge of ther fredome" struck out.

<sup>3</sup> church plate sold on the dissolution of chantries.

<sup>4</sup> clerk.

<sup>5</sup> fifteenth (subsidy).

<sup>6</sup> Lord John Grey.

<sup>7</sup> Suffolk was released July 27, 1553.

<sup>8</sup> tarrye = terrier.

<sup>9</sup> stresse = distress.

<sup>10</sup> whoredom.

<sup>11</sup> theft, robbery.

£3. 12s....for a replevy of *toiciens quociens*<sup>1</sup>...entryng of tow accyons in the Castyll cowrte 1s....one to go to Wheston to warne the tenants to be at the Common hall 4*d*....2 post horses...close for the post horse to go in 13s. 4*d*....fyndyng tow post horses a weke 4s. Item paid for the Chauntry vessell<sup>2</sup> 22s. 2*d*....for carryng the same vessell to wayeng and to the hall agayn 6*d*....to hyer a neu herde 2*d*....fettters for the posthorses...a hook to hang the mace in in the churchc 4*d*....for a man to watter the posthorses twyse [a] day and to tende them and for tow halters to lede them to the watter 1s. 10*d*....scoweryng of the toune harnes 30s....for the ettyng<sup>3</sup> of the tow buks that my lord John gave over and above my lords rewarde 22s. 6*d*....hangyng upp of the harnes in the hall 4*d*....for takyng of<sup>4</sup> the lock wher the Charter lyethe and setting of it on agayn 2*d*....for lokyng over the charter and other books 1s....showyng<sup>5</sup> of tow posthorsys and 4 removys<sup>6</sup> 1s. 5*d*....Mr Meyre for his charges when he went to London with Mr Bowghton<sup>7</sup> £5....paid for a *capyas* and entryng an accyon agaynst Stretton for his chef rent behynde 10*d*.

*Gyftes of wyne*...Mr Latymer, Mr Lever<sup>8</sup>...the bisshope of Lyncolne...my lord of Suffolk 10 Nov....Mr Sheref whan he browght the wryt for the burgesses of parlyament...Mr Recorder at the assyse in rent...the Judges...Mr Lord's consell and the baylley of Whytweke...Mr Cave when we went to speke with hym for our besenes at Wheston...my lorde John Grey whan he cam fyrst from London...for the Justices whan they sat in commyssyon at the Newarke...to Doctor Draicote at Belgraue...to the Commyssyoners whan the dyd take muster of the towne...my lord John Grey at the proclamynge of quene Mary the quens maiestie that now ys...sack gyven to my lord John whan he cam from Tyltey...£1. 8s. 6*d*.

*Reparacions*...12 fote bords to mend the cage a grondsyll and 4 stanchyons...mendyng of the cuckstole at tow tymes...the cheynes at the est yate...4 theylles<sup>9</sup> and other thynges for the same yates 2s....a peyr of jemmoyes<sup>10</sup> for the sothe yate...scoweryng and dychyng the Cowhey 3s. 4*d*....to scower the wateryng place (3 men at 5*d*. a day each, for 4 days)...15 lodes of ston, 12 lodes of sande, 4 lodes of lyme for the wall at the wateryng places and for reparacions of the hall and for workmanshippe of the same wall 41s. 8*d*....slattyng of the hall

<sup>1</sup> recovery of distress "as often as."

<sup>2</sup> Recovered under Mary.

<sup>3</sup> eating.

<sup>4</sup> of = off.

<sup>5</sup> shoeing.

<sup>6</sup> posting stages.

<sup>7</sup> Vicar of St Martin's. The mayor was ordered by the Council to bring him; Dasent's *Acts of the Privy Council*, 1553, p. 338.

<sup>8</sup> Perhaps the divine, Thomas Lever.

<sup>9</sup> a plank, see *Nottingham Records*, III. Glossary.

<sup>10</sup> hinges.

for 3 workmen 3 dayes, 8*d.* a day a pece, 6*s.*...a hundrythe of slattes for the hall 8*d.*...£4. 19*s.* 10*s.*

*The holl somm* of the payments £49. 2*s.* 2*d.*...to the chamber... £22. 16*s.* 3*d.*

### CXIII. *Royal letters against Liveries.*

Box 1 A, No. 496. [Oct. 28, 1553.] Queen Mary's letters patent (in English) to the Mayor and brethren forbidding the taking of liveries and cognizances, as a disturbance of the commons. By authority of parliament no person shall retain or be retained, give or take liveries or cognizance, under great pains named in the act. They are charged that none in the town of what degree or condition soever, be retained by cloth, cognizance, oath or otherwise—"except only with us to do us service when required in the retinue of our stewardship there." Proclamation hereof is to be made. If any attempt the breach of the laws, then the Mayor and Recorder shall certify the Chancellor and Council of the Duchy of the same.

[Duchy seal.]

### CXIV. *Borough Ordinances.*

Book of Acts, p. 30. [Nov. 17, 1553.] *An Acte for Nyght Walkers*<sup>1</sup>. At a common hall holdyn at Leicester the xvii<sup>t</sup> day of November in the fyrst yer of the most prossperous reigne of our Soueraigne lady Mary by the grace of God of England Fraunce & Irelande quene, defendor of the feathe & in erthe of the church of England & also of Ireland the supreme head, in the tyme of maraltie of Mr Thos. Davinport mayer of the seid towne of Leycester, at the same common hall yt was enactyd & agreed by the seid Mr Mayer & his brethern namyd the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> and the holl XLVIII<sup>ti</sup>, in the name of the holl body of the same towne, that from henseforthe all nyght walkers & other ydell & evyll disposyd person to the plesure of God & worshippe of the towne myght be restreynyd from ther lybertyes, whyche nothyng lesse regard than tranquylyte & quyetnes, wherfore this godly acte was mayde perpetually to endure whyche acte hereafter followythe in these wordes :—

(p. 31.) Wher of late here hathe ben within this towne of Leicester dyuers Idell ryottous & evyll disposyd persons who ys not content all the day to sytt in Innes, Tavernes, alle housys & other vyttulyng housys to ther gret costes & losse of tyme, but lykwyse wyll do the same all the nyght with walkyng in the strettes, contrary to the good lawes of the realme therfore maide, & moche truble to the well dyssposyd people that wold take ther naturall rest, with other

<sup>1</sup> Hall Book I, p. 458, and II, p. 2, refers to this act "in the regester or boke of acts."

mysfortunes as comythe by suche evyll rule, as yt ys not vnknowe hathe happyned, within this towne of late, the deathe of on man, whiche ys to the gret dishonor of Almyghtye God, the quenes maiestie & gret slaunder, hurte & truble to this towne, & moche more ys lyke to come yf remyde therfore be not shortly provydyde, wherfore yt ys enactyd that no maner of person or persones, of what estate degre or condicion so euer he or they be, dwellyng or inhabytyng within the towne of Leycester or the subbarbes of the same, do from hensefurthe walke or go abrode within any stret or strettes of the seid towne or subbarbes of the same after ix of the clock at nyght & after the curfure<sup>1</sup> bell do leve ryngyng, offycers only except, & other of the wathe whiche shalbe appoyntyde for the ouer syght of the same, but & yf any suche person or persons be takyn or founden in the strettes, other housekeeper or any mans seruantes or prentyses after the seid ower of ix of the clock, or yf any person or persons inhabytyng or dwellyng within this seid towne or the subbarbes of y<sup>e</sup> same be takyn or founden playng at any vnlawfull games, other for money or alle or kepyng any companye, or out of ther owne house or housys, or any seruant or prentyse out of his or ther masters house or housys, in any Inne, taverne, alle-house or typplyng house or victulyng house, after the seid ower of ix of the clock, & the curfure bell seasyd, without a resonable cause to be knowne, before Mr Mayor for the tyme beyng or before y<sup>e</sup> alderman of the quarter wher any suche person or persons shall be founden or takyn after the seid ower of ix of the clock, for the fyrst tyme euery person that ys takyn with suche defaute to forfeyt xii*d.*, the secounde tyme iis., & the thyrde tyme to suffer imprisonment at Mr Mayers will & plesure, or at the will & plesure of the alderman of the seid warde, wher any suche person or persons shalbe so takyn or founde; and also the keper of any suche Inne, taverne, alle house, typplyng house or victulyng house wher any suche person or persons shal be founde after the seid ower of ix of the clock and the bell seasyd—for euery tyme makyng suche default to forfeyt xii*d.* & further to suffer imprisonment by the space of xiiii days without any favor or pardon; notwithstanding yt shal be lawfull to all [p. 32] strangers commyng & resortyng to this towne to haue ther lawfull pastyme within ther seid Innes; but yf any stranger that so shall resorte to this towne haue at any tyme any cause to go abrode into any part of the seid towne about his or ther besenes after the bell seasyd, that than

<sup>1</sup> curfew; Bowbell it is called in the Chamberlains' Accounts, because Bow Church set the hour in London. *Arnold's Chronicle* p. 90.

the seid stranger not to go abroad or out of his seid Innes or hostes house except he haue the good man of the house or some of his seruantes with hym, uppon peyn of euery stranger so takyn without his oste or some of his seruantes with hym to go to the warde, there to remayne vntyll he be examyned before Mr Mayer & the Justices for the tyme beyng; and further that yf any In keper or other, keypyng or occupyenge any lodgyng of gestes, do at any tyme hereafter receve or take into his or ther house or houses any stranger or strangers after the seid ower of ix of the clock at nyght & the curfure bell seasyd, that than all suche In keepers or others lodgyng any suche strangers shall reporte the names & dwellyng places of all suche ther geestes or strangers the next morrow after ther so commynge to the alderman of the warde or his depute, wher any suche gestes or strangers shall be lodgyd, vppon peyn of euery In keper or other that so shall lodge any suche stranger, & not his name presentyd as ys aforeseid, to suffer imprisonment by the space of xiiii days without favor or pardon in that behalfe; & the seid bell to be rong nyghtly from Myhelmas to our Lady Day in Lent & to haue for y<sup>e</sup> ryngyng viiis., that ys to say euery on of the XXIII<sup>id</sup>. apece & euery on of the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> id. apece.

*An Acte for carryenge of woode.* At the same common hall yt was stratly defendyd by the seid Mr Mayer his brethern & the holl XLVIII<sup>th</sup> that forasmoche as before this tyme dyuers Idyll, covytous & evyll disposyd persons dwellyng within this towne of Leycester & the subbarbes of the same hath for ther gredy & vnsacyable covytousenes by carryeng, brybyng<sup>1</sup>, & cuttyng downe of woodes, not truly commyng to the same, nether by byeng for ther money nor by gyft of any person, that be the owners of the same woodes, as from the quenes maiesties woodes & others about this towne, hathe causyd & browght this seid towne & all thinhabytauntes of the same in suche rumor & sklander as the lyke before this tyme hathe not ben, for reformation wherof & to thentent that all suche Idelnes & carryeng of wood may be layd aparte & euery person bothe men, women & chyldryn from henseforthe may excersyse & follow that occupacion or syence<sup>2</sup> whiche God of his goodnes hathe callyd them vnto:—Mr Mayer therfore & his brethren by vertu of the seid acte mayd at the seid common hall stratly charythe & commaundythe in the quene our Soueraigne lades name, all maner of persons dwellyng & inhabyteng within the towne of Leycester or the subbarbes of the same, that they nor non of them, nether ther chyldryn nor seruantes, from &

<sup>1</sup> robbing.<sup>2</sup> craft.

after this acte be proclamyd, brek, cut downe or carry any maner of wood out of the new park, Abbey park, Stockynge & Asheclose or any other woodes, other of the quenes maiesties or any other persons about<sup>1</sup> this seid towne of Leicester; but y<sup>at</sup> they & euery of them put themselves in such bodyle<sup>2</sup> labor as they may get ther lyveng withall, vppon peyn that they & euery of them so takyn, brekyng, cuttyng, or carryeng any woodes, payles, hedges, or setters<sup>3</sup> of payles out of the seid woodes & groundes, or from any close or grounde about the towne, not beyng bowght nor paid for, to be punysshed by the Justices of the Shyre, wher any suche shalbe takyn, & after sent home to the towne agayn, ther to be lykewyse punysshed at Mr Mayer & the Justices will & plesure, & further to be ordryd accordynge to the quenes maiesties statutes & lawes as valyant, stronge & sturdy vacabondes & after to be banysshed the towne for euer.

#### CXV. *Regrating.*

Hall Book I, p. 459. [Nov. 18, 1553.] Note of the presenting of a regrater of corn, for buying a bushel of malt in the market and proffering the same to sell again in the same market.

#### CXVI. *The Bailiwick.*

Hall Book I, p. 460, and II, p. 4. [Nov. 29, 1553.] Mr Smith's acknowledgement of his debt of 40s. for refusing to occupy the office of the bailiwick, according to an act therefor made: "and in his sted ys Mr Berrege for the yere followynge."

#### CXVII. *Decision to levy a rate.*

Hall Book I, p. 460, and II, p. 4. [Jan. 19, 1554.] At a common hall holdyn at Leycester the XIX<sup>th</sup> day of January in the fyrst yer of the reigne of our most drad soueraigne lady Mary by the grace of God of England, Fraunce & Ireland quene, defendor of the feyth & in erthe of the churche of England & also of Ireland the supreme heade, before Tho. Davynport mayor of the same towne of Leycester & hys brethren namyd the XXIIII<sup>th</sup> & the holl XLVIII<sup>th</sup> in the name of the holl body of the same towne, at the same common hall yt was condycendyd that ther shold be a leyre<sup>4</sup> maide within the towne in maner of a fyftene for the charges of the confyrmacion of the charter<sup>5</sup> with other thynges belongyng to the same towne in maner & forme

<sup>1</sup> "about" repeated.

<sup>2</sup> bodily.

<sup>3</sup> ?struts for paling.

<sup>4</sup> A rate or levy.

<sup>5</sup> See below No. cxx.



followyng ; that ys to sey euery one of the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> to pay vs. & euery one of the XLVIII<sup>i</sup> iis. vid. apece & the rest to be gatheryd of the commoners of the same towne

in eleccion for the burgess of y<sup>e</sup> Parliament

Mr Fraunces Farnam recorder.

Mr Hen. Aston.

Mr Will. Manbe.

Mr Thomas Jenkynson.

CXVIII. *A letter on the post horses.*

Box 9 A, No. 13 (3), 4 Feb. 1554. An unsigned letter dated from the Middle Temple, addressed to the Mayor and burgesses. The copy of the proclamation which was sent, has been delivered to the master of the (Queen's) horses, declaring their good and true hearts towards the Queen. The said master of the Queen's horses did not only gently and thankfully receive their doings herein but made report thereof to the Queen, who was pleased, hoping they would continue in true and faithful service towards her at all times hereafter whatever shall happen and chance.

CXIX. *Election of Members of Parliament.*

Hall Book I, p. 461, and II, p. 5. [March 16, 1554.] At a common hall holdyn at Leycester the xvi<sup>th</sup> day of Marche in the fyrst yer of the reigne of our soueraigne laydy Mary by the grace of God of England Fraunce & Irelande quene, defendor of the feyth & in erthe of the churche of Englande & also of Ireland the supreme head, before Mr Tho. Davinport mayer of the towne of Leycester, the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> & the holl XLVIII<sup>ti</sup>, at the whiche common hall ware chosyn to be burgessys of the parlyament for the said towne of Leycester to be holdyn at Oxeforde the ii day of Apprell these persons followynge, Mr Fraunces Fernham recorder, & Mr Tho. Jenkynson, mercer<sup>1</sup>.

CXX. *Charter of Mary.*

Roll 496\*. [May 12, 1554.] Letters patent of Mary confirming Henry VIII's grant of a fair [No. LXVI. above] and Edward VI's charter [No. LXXXVI. above].

CXXI. *Borough Ordinances.*

Hall Book I, p. 461, and II, p. 5. [June 29, 1554.] (*Refusal of Mayoralty.*) At the same common hall yt was agreed by the seid Master mayer & his brethren & the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> that the acte mayde for

<sup>1</sup> See above, No. cxvii.

thelleccion of the mayer with the penaltye in the same shal stande in all his force & strengthe for euer more<sup>1</sup>.

(*Assize of beer.*) At the same common hall yt was also agreed that all brwers shall sell the ale after i*id.* the gallon vnder the syve & xii gallons to the dosyn with small drynke & grenes<sup>2</sup> & also to make holsom smalle drynke of a *ob.* a gallon for the pore people.

Book of Acts, p. 35. [June 30, 1554.] *An acte for comynge to the common hall.* (Renews the act of March 19, 1546 (p. 52 above) with a note that the original act was of Oct. 22, 1467, see vol. II. pp. 293—4.)

Ibid. p. 37. [July 22, 1554.] *An Acte for thoffice of the mayer's sergyant.* At an assemble of Master Thos. Davynport mayer of the towne of Leycester & his brethren namyd the XXIII<sup>th</sup> holdyn the xxii<sup>th</sup> day of July in the seconde yer of the reigne of our most gracyous soueraigne lady Mary, by the grace of God of England, Fraunce & Ireland quene, defendor of the feythe & in erthe of the church of England & also of Ireland the supreme heade, at the same assemple yt was & is agreed by the seid mayer & his brethren by ther full assent consent & agrement that at the request of the ryght honorable Erle of Huntynghdon hys letter to them dyrectyd datyd the xvii<sup>th</sup> day of February that Antonye Gayre shall haue & enyoie the offyce of the mayers sargyantshippe within the seid towne of Leycester at the next avoydaunce of the seide offyce, so longe as y<sup>e</sup> seid Antonye dothe his dutye in the seid offyce & orderyth himselfe lyke an honest man.

## CXXII. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1553—4.] *Rents...Chapman Gild...wardyns of the Cowpers 5s. 6*d.*...wardyns of butchers 5s....glovers 5s. 10*d.*...Mr Smythe for not occupyenge of the bayllywek 40*s.*... (2) for offences in the markyt 6*s.* 8*d.*...for a post horse...£1. 3*s.* 4*d.*...Mr Reynold for the ballywek ...for the sheppennes £8...receuyd of the x wardes towards the confirmacion of the charter<sup>3</sup> and other charges £6. 14*s.* 4*d.*...of the XXIII towards the same £6...of the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> towards the same £5. 12*s.* 6*d.* ...of the olde chamberlyns for thoccupacion of butchers that was left out of ther accompt 2*s.*...occupacion of barbouris 5*s.* 8*d.*...Thomas Bamford for forfefts after Bowbell<sup>4</sup> for (7 named) 7*s.*...for an offence*

<sup>1</sup> See II. p. 328.

<sup>2</sup> Drink made from refuse malt, or perhaps the grains themselves, see *N.E.D.* s. v. *grain*.

<sup>3</sup> No. CXX.

<sup>4</sup> Curfew, called after the London Bow bell.

done contrary to thorder of the towne 3s. 4d.... some of all the recepts £87. 6s. 10½d.

*Dekeys...Chef rents...vycker of sent Margytts for Sir Ric. Ylkesley obbet<sup>1</sup>.*

*Gyftes of wyne...Mr Sant<sup>2</sup> 27 Nov....audytours 29 Nov. 3 gall. of muskadyne gyven to my lorde of Huntyngdon and Sir Edw. Hastings at thassyse in Lent...a suger lofe of 10*li*. and quarter after 16*d*. a pounce gyven to the same 13s. 8*d*....the Judges...my lady of Huntyngdon at her gate<sup>3</sup> to London, whyt wyne...clarret...to my lord of Huntyngdon by Mr Mayer at Braunston...to the bysshoppe<sup>4</sup> 7 June...33s.*

*Fees...Ric. Wodward<sup>5</sup> for his charges whan he went to Callys<sup>6</sup> for Mr Davinport...renewyng of the charter £9. 4s. 4*d*....a longbox for the charter 3s. 4*d*. Mr Heys for the serche in his offyce in the tower<sup>7</sup> about the townes bessenes 5s....a paper boke for the common hall 1s. 4*d*....Mr Jenkynson...seut of Beamunt Leys and other...44s. 10*d*. ...more payd to the same for 34<sup>th</sup> days after 2s. a day beynges (*sic*) of the parlyament for the towne £3. 8s. 0*d*....to Mr Recorder the same tyme beyng burgess<sup>8</sup> for half his burgess fees 34s....for the proclamacion for reteners<sup>9</sup> as apperys by a byll 16s. 8*d*....to Mr Mose<sup>10</sup> for sewt agaynst Corbyt<sup>11</sup> for Beamont leys as apperyth by his byll 7s. 4*d*....Mr Hewys for 2 warpe<sup>12</sup> of lunge and other fresshe fysshe gyven to Mr Saunt 30 Nov. 15s. 4*d*....2 collers for the post horsse 2*d*....kepyng of one of the posthorsse<sup>13</sup> from sent Thomas Day before Crystomas vntyll the Satterday after xii day<sup>14</sup> 6s....½ oz. sylver for one of the Chamberlyns staves and mendyng...3s. 6*d*....2 shewes for one of the post horsse 4*d*. ...Mr Chamberlyns gate to Lundon about the townes bessenes 30 Jan. 13s. 4*d*....for bryngyng the quenes maiesties letter from my lorde of Huntyngdon 1s....half a fresche salmon and 2 c. osters gyven to the quenes solyster<sup>15</sup> and his Company at the Crosse Keys 4s....watche that was kept at the 4 yates of the day tyme to the Aldermen 19 Feb. 7s. 9*d*....buckles, lether and naylles for the towne harnes 2s. 6*d*....revyteng of the same harnes 1s. 8*d*....a fresche salmon, half a turbut and 5 c. osters gyven to my lord of Huntyngdon, Sir Edw. Hastings, at thassyse in Lent 22s....Ric. Wodward for his fyre at thassyse...tymber to make the gallows at the Hye Crosse...making the same...*

<sup>1</sup> See above p. 49, note 13.

<sup>2</sup> Sheriff.

<sup>3</sup> gate=going.

<sup>4</sup> Bishop of Lincoln.

<sup>5</sup> Queen's Receiver.

<sup>6</sup> Calais.

<sup>7</sup> Tower of London, where the government records were kept.

<sup>8</sup> of parliament.

<sup>9</sup> No. cxiii.

<sup>10</sup> Mayor's clerk.

<sup>11</sup> See No. ci.

<sup>12</sup> four of fish, see Halliwell, Glossary.

<sup>13</sup> See No. cxviii.

<sup>14</sup> Twelfth Day.

<sup>15</sup> Will. Cordell.

setting the same in the grounde...2 dosyn of poynts<sup>1</sup> for the men that war harnessyd<sup>2</sup> at thexecucion of Kettell<sup>3</sup> 2*d*...for standyng in the steples to loken for my lorde of Huntynghdon comynge 2*d*...Mr Berredg<sup>4</sup> for suche thyngs as was done about thexecucion of Kettell and setting uppe his heed and quarters 9 March 10*s*...takyng uppe the gallows at the hys crosse...man and his horse to carry the olde charter to Northampton...to London...Mr Chamberlyn...whan he went to Ashebe to my lorde<sup>5</sup> to shew hym the wrytt that cam for Mr Mayd and other of his brether to gyve evydence of my lord John<sup>6</sup> 6*d*...the post horse from Sent Thomas day...untyll fast<sup>7</sup> 3*s*...bryngyng of the buck to the XLVIII<sup>th</sup>...at the ettyng of the buck that my lord of Huntynghdon gave to the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> 10*s*...for fyre at this accompt 4*d*.

*Reparacion*...tholde meares hall...jemmoys<sup>8</sup> and naylles for the stocks in the markyt sted...stockes in the Meares hall...the skaffolde about the pyllory...a hollow key for the parlor dore at the Meres hall...payng of the Est yattes...makyng brodder the benche at the Mayres hall...2 thelles<sup>9</sup>...to set them on...2*s*. 4*d*...cheynnes at the west yate, the chenes beyng 16 lynks, and that we had yron of hym to make them withall, weyng thre score ponds and twelve...a lynke and a bolt for the wykkett<sup>10</sup>.

*The holl some*...£60. 13*s*. 2*d*...Clerc £26. 13*s*. 7½*d*.

### CXXIII. *Release from the Bailiwick.*

Hall Book II, p. 9, and I, p. 463<sup>11</sup>. [Nov. 26, 1554.] Memorandum the XXVI<sup>th</sup> day of November in the fyrst & seconde yer of the reigne of our soueraigne lord & lady Phillippe & Mary by the grace of God of England, Fraunce, Neaples, Jerusalem & Ireland kynge & quene etc. At an assemble of Mr John Berredg mayer of the towne of Leicester & his brethren namyd the XXIII<sup>th</sup>, at the same assemble Mr Nich. Carter accordynge to thorder of the towne was chosyn to be one of the 2 baylyffes of the towne for one yer to endure, which offyce the seid Mr Carter dyd refuse & desyeryd to be put in his fyne of xls. & further vppon his one<sup>12</sup> benevolens & for the good will that he berythe vnto the seid towne & in consederacion that he ys a

<sup>1</sup> laces to tie breeches.

<sup>2</sup> were armed.

<sup>3</sup> I have found no mention of him in printed calendars or in Fox.

<sup>4</sup> Mayor 1554—5.

<sup>5</sup> of Huntingdon.

<sup>6</sup> Lord John Grey.

<sup>7</sup> ? Shrovetide.

<sup>8</sup> hinges.

<sup>9</sup> deals, planks.

<sup>10</sup> the wicket, a small door within the large gate.

<sup>11</sup> In slightly different form.

<sup>12</sup> one = own.

man partly perysshed in his syght & not able to excersyse any offyce hathe gyven vnto the chamber of the seid towne *vli.* & ys bounden by his byll oblygatory for the pament of the same & hathe seallyd & delyuered the same byll in the presens of Mr Mayer (and 15 named) so that this act be no presedent in tyme to com to any that shall excersyse or occupye any offyce within the seid towne.

CXXIV. *Injunction for grinding at certain mills, withdrawn.*

Hall Book II, p. 11. [Dec. 9, 1554.] At an assemble of Mr John Berredge mayer of the towne of Leicester & his brethren namyd the XXIII<sup>t</sup> the IX<sup>th</sup> day of December in the fyrst & seconde yer of the reignes of our soueraigne lorde & lade Philippe & Mare by the grace of God of Englande, Fraunce, Naples, Jerusalem, & Irelande kyng & quene, defendors of the feathe, princes of Spaine & Scicille, arche-dukes of Austria, dukes of Myllyon<sup>1</sup>, Burgony<sup>2</sup>, & Brabant, countyes of Haspurge, Flanders, & Tyroll, at the same assemble in the presence of the seid Mr Berredge mayer (and 13 named), with other, cam in Master Jonys, Mr Harve & Mr Welche, & than & ther browght a sertyn Iniuncceyon whiche they had laboryd out for gryndynge at ther myllys whiche was thought to be hurtfull to the common welthe of the towne & in especylly to the gret dekey of the kyng & the quenes mylles of the castell, for the laboryng out of whiche Iniuncceyon euery one of the seid partes by an olde acte<sup>3</sup> dyd forfeit xls. apece; not withstandynge the seid Mr Jones, Mr Harve, & Mr Welche consederynge & castynge in ther myndes amongst themselues that the same Iniuncceyon shold be preiudyciall vnto the kyng & quenes maiesties mylles of the castell, without any compulceyon of any partei, of ther owne good willes dyd than & ther in the presens of the seid Mr Mayer & his brethren conclude that the same Iniuncceyon sholde neuer be seud<sup>4</sup> but be frustrat & voyde for euer; and for that that they so gently war myndyd to leyue ther seid Iniuncceyon & not to followe the same in tyme to come, the seid Mr Mayer & his brethren dyd fully agree that the seid forfeiture of xls. apece shold be clerly & frely forgyven them, so that this acte be no presedent in tyme to come to any that shall offende in any suche lyke matter.

<sup>1</sup> Milan.

<sup>2</sup> Burgundy.

<sup>3</sup> Cf. II. pp. 290-1, 316-7, and above p. 31.

<sup>4</sup> sued.

CXXV. *Letters on the dress of the Companies.*

Book of Acts, p. 19. [Jan. 8, 1555.] <sup>1</sup>A letter sent from my Lorde Chauncellor to Mr Mayer & his brethren for the werynge of ther apparell in the tyme of meraltie of Mr John Berredge with other letters as followth—

After commendacions: I vnderstand by aduertysment from your towne that dyuerse of you beyng rather desyerous of newfangelnes then contentyd to follow suche aunycent & laudable customes as haue had tyme out of mynde ther contynuaunce, whych yow haue of late sowght meanes to breke & abolshe suche therof wherby your common welthe ys most countenaunced & set forthe: wher vppon I thowght yt mete to requere so many of you as be thus fondly affectyd, that, levyng of suche vayne fances, ye woll henseforthe remayne quyet & contentyd to follow & allowe suche laudable customes & rewles as haue alwayes ben tyme out of mynde vsyd amongst yow. Thus fare yow well, at my house in London this VIII<sup>th</sup> of January.

Your loving frende<sup>2</sup>.

[Jan. 19, 1555.] To his loving frendes the mayre of the kyng & quenes maiesties towne of Leycester and his brethren gyve this—

After my herty commendacions because your towne ys within myne offyce<sup>3</sup>, havinge a wyll therfore to do you good, as I haue declared vnto this berer my mynde at large, therefore I thowght good to gyve yow myne advyce: that ys that you the mayre & brethren of that towne sholde vse & kepe all your good & laudable customes such as in tymes past ye haue ben wont to do, bothe in apparell & otherwyse, in doynge wherof ye shall kepe all thynges in good staye to your owne commodyteis & also gyve me occasyon to reporte your good doynges from tyme to tyme as occasyon shall serue to your comfort: & so byd you hartely fare well, from the cowrte the XIX<sup>th</sup> of Januarye.

Your loving frend,

Robert Rochester<sup>4</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Cf. Nichols IV. i. App. 395.

<sup>2</sup> Unsigned. Gardiner bishop of Winchester (sometime archdeacon of Leicester) was then Lord Chancellor.

<sup>3</sup> As Chancellor of the Duchy.

<sup>4</sup> Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Comptroller of the Queen's Household.

CXXVI. *Borough Ordinances.*

Hall Book II, p. 12, and Book of Acts, p. 44. [March 5, 1555.] (*Companies' feasts.*) At the same common hall yt ys enactyd & establysshed by the same consent of the seid mayer & burgesses namyd the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> & the holl XLVIII<sup>ti</sup>, that from henseforthe whan so euer any venyson commythe to the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> or the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> by the gyft of any nobleman or other gent, the same flesshe to be ettyne at the only costes & charges of the seid XXIII<sup>ti</sup> & the seid XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> euery man partyclerly to bere his porcyon after the rayte of the same charges, without any part to be borne by the chamber of the towne of Leycester.

Book of Acts, p. 37. *An Acte for the verynge of skarlet.* At a common hall holdyn at Leycester the VIII<sup>th</sup><sup>1</sup> day of Marche in the fyrst & secounde yeres of the reygnes of our soueraigne lord & lady Philippe & Mary by the grace of God kyng & quene of England, Fraunce, Naples, Jerusalem & Ireland defendors of the feythe, princes of Spayne & Scicile, archdukes of Austric<sup>2</sup>, dukes of Myllayne, Burgonye & Brabant, countyes of Haspurge, Flanders & Tyroll, in the tyme of maraltie of Mr Joh. Berredg, at the same common hall yt was enactyd, establysshed & agred by the assent, consent & agrement of the seid Mr Joh. Berredg mayer (and 15 named), namyd the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> & all the holl XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> perpetually to endure for & in the name of the holl body of the same towne, that frome hensforthe all & euery person that shalbe elect & chosyn to execute the offyce of the meraltie within the seid towne of Leycester at euery princypall feast & other tyme accustomyd shall were, for the honor of the kyng & quenes maiestes & ther successors & for the worshippe of the seid towne, skarlet, as of aunciant tyme yt hathe ben accustomyd, vppon payne of euery person so chosyn to the seid offyce of meraltie refusynge the verynge of the seid skarlet duryng his seid tyme of meraltie to forfeyt & pay to the chamber of the towne of Leycester fyve poundes, that to be leuyed by the chamberlyns for the tyme beyng.

<sup>1</sup> A mistake for v<sup>th</sup> as in Hall Book II, p. 12, where the act is briefly summarized.

<sup>2</sup> Austric = Oestreich.

CXXVII. *Leases of the Butts Close and of a house.*

Hall Book II, p. 17. [Nov. 20, 1555.] Memorandum that at the same comon hall Mr Will. Cunnyngesbe hathe takyn of the towne the but close payenge iis. vii<sup>id</sup>. a yer & for that he seyth that he hathe takyn a lease of the same close owt of the duchie, which lease he ys content after his decease to surrender to the towne his yere to come in the same lease & he to make the reparacions of the buttes so that the turves be browght to hym for the same<sup>1</sup>.

Ibid. p. 19. [Feb. 27, 1556.] Memorandum y<sup>at</sup> y<sup>e</sup> bargayne betwyxte y<sup>e</sup> chaumberlenes & Robt. Bottler for y<sup>e</sup> howse in Applegat is y<sup>at</sup> Robt. shall sett y<sup>e</sup> house streyght in<sup>2</sup> all places and to fynde al manar of tember, stods & spars, for y<sup>e</sup> same, and to make y<sup>e</sup> dores & windowis y<sup>at</sup> shall ned & so fynnd bordes & nelis for y<sup>e</sup> same & for y<sup>e</sup> holl house, also and yf y<sup>e</sup> chaumberlens shall refues any tymber y<sup>e</sup> said Robt. shall chaunge it, and alle cracked peces now standing ther y<sup>e</sup> said Robt. shall take awaye & put in other for y<sup>em</sup>, and to haue for his labore tymber & nelis, y<sup>e</sup> old tymber & vii<sup>l</sup>. xiiis. iii<sup>id</sup>.

CXXVIII. *Chamberlains' Accounts.*

[1555—6.] *Rents...Chapman Gild...* of Mr Cotton for sertyn sylver sponys £6. 13s. 4d....occupacion of showmakers.. fyne of sertyn butchers...a fyne aganst the acte for nyght walkyng 1s.... brekyng the assyse of candell...occupacion of tayllors...bakers... offences...contrary to the laws of the towne...the eyght and forty that was gatherd of them for the harnessyng of the xx men that my lorde of Huntynghdon shold have had, towardes the charges of byenge swords, daggers and other necessaryes and scoweryng...£3. 4s. 0d.... 11 tres small sold at Wheston 13s. 4d....6 small stuppes<sup>3</sup> 8s.... 9 runttes<sup>4</sup> 2s....for the bequest of Syr John Hards will<sup>5</sup> £3. 6s. 8d.

*The some of all the receypts* £71. 7s. 4d.

*Gyftes of wyne....*my lord of Huntynghdon before he sat of the subysyde in malmysey, sack and claret 3s. 3d....Judges...my lord of Lyncoln...lord Hastings whan he cam to take muster...Judges at sent Margyts tyde...22s. 1d.

<sup>1</sup> Cf. the charges in the Chamberlains' Accounts.

<sup>2</sup> *in* repeated.

<sup>3</sup> posts, see *stoope* in *Nottingham Records* III. Glossary, p. 502.

<sup>4</sup> stumps, see Halliwell's *Glossary*.

<sup>5</sup> See above p. 71.



*Fees*...Mr Cloughes obbet...serche of the records of the tower for the lyberties of the towne 20s....fyshe to my lord...after he sat of the subysde 13s. 8d....letter to Mr Beamont for to dyscharge hym for syttyng within the towne for concelyd land<sup>1</sup>...Mr Sants<sup>2</sup> clerk for the retorne of the indenture of the burgesses of the parlyament...Master Recorder for his fee beyng burgess of the parlament 40s....Mr Merys clerk for 2 days at Crystmas to Ashebee to my lorde<sup>3</sup> about the townes besenes...whan Neuton was carryed to Ashebe to my lord...with his false commyssyon...for a new stryk...the clerk of the markyt whan he sat in the bysshops fee 10s....lether to make badges for the pore 10d....watchynge the west yates for wod-carriers<sup>4</sup>...the north bryge the same tyme...for a cort<sup>5</sup> to whyppe a wacabond furth of the towne 2d...Wheston men whan they browght turves to the butts...to fetch the Recorder to kepe the sessyons...to the Quenes plaers over and above that was gathered 3s. 6d....entryng of W. D. into the court for Sir John Hards<sup>6</sup> wyll 6d....a *cappas* for Mr Cotton and entrynge our accion (at Sapcote) 10d....2 burthyns of russches for the parlor aganst the assyse...scowryng the harnes, 10 bylles, 12 swords, 17 daggers, 4 dosyn poynts, shotyng gloves, brasers<sup>7</sup> and bowstryngs ...£3. 16s. 6½d.

*Reparacions*...latyseng of the towne hall wyndow 5s. 6d....to the churche wardyns of Sent Peters for ston...gronsellyng<sup>8</sup> the wholl house and torchyng<sup>9</sup> the chymney within 13s. 8d....levelyng the flores...olde hey to torche with<sup>10</sup> 1s. 8d....7 lodes of lyme whiche repared sent Johnes Crosse and the bryge at the Claypytt £1. 10s. 3d.

*Reparacions of the Causey*...the pavyer for his bargayn maid £2. 6s. 8d....more paid to hym for 2 days whan he lackyd ston... (many payments for carriage of stone)...a wryght to pyn the brydges... 2 syls<sup>11</sup> to make 4 overleyrs<sup>12</sup> and for 4 stolpes<sup>13</sup> 4s. 8d....3 theyles<sup>14</sup> 2s. 6d....rowghe ston out of the freers<sup>15</sup> 4s....for shottyng<sup>16</sup> and sharpynyng of a pyckaxe.—£7. 8s. 4d.

*Summa*.....£92. 17s. 2½d.....So the towne ys indetted..... £2. 9s. 10½d.

<sup>1</sup> Concealed from the operation of one of the acts dissolving chantries or religious houses.

<sup>2</sup> Sheriff. <sup>3</sup> of Huntingdon.

<sup>4</sup> Cf. the act above p. 75.

<sup>5</sup> cort = ? cart or cord.

<sup>6</sup> See above pp. 71, 84.

<sup>7</sup> leather wrist-guard of archers.

<sup>8</sup> laying foundations.

<sup>9</sup> daubing.

<sup>10</sup> hay for daubing.

<sup>11</sup> beams, see *Prompt. Parv.*

<sup>12</sup> horizontal scaffold poles, see *Nottingham Records* III. Glossary, p. 496.

<sup>13</sup> posts, see *Nottingham Records* III. 502.

<sup>14</sup> planks.

<sup>15</sup> the Friars.

<sup>16</sup> shutting, welding.

CXXIX. *Appointment of a Recorder, and Borough Ordinances.*

Hall Book II, p. 23. [May 7, 1557.] At the same common hall yt was agred by Mr Mayer & his brethren named the xxiiii<sup>ti</sup> & the holl xlvi<sup>ti</sup> that Mr Fraunces Eytton shalbe recorder of the towne & he to haue for his fee yerly (blank).

[*Survey and terrier.*] At the same common hall ther was appoynted to go with Mr Mayor to take a vew of all the towne landes & to make a tarrye<sup>1</sup> of the same these persones followyng (6 named).

At the same common hall yt was agred that yf any<sup>2</sup> man or woman do at any tyme after this present day caste into the Sowre or ryver any maner of weedes or other fylthe & that non washe no inneyttes<sup>3</sup> or suche lyke at any place in the same watter nere to any place wher any burne<sup>4</sup> ys taken vppe, vpon peyn of euery man or woman makyng default for the fyrst tyme vid. the second tyme xiid. & so doble & after imprisonment at Mr Mayor & the Justices will & plesure.

Ibid. p. 24. [May 7, 1557.] *Companies' neglect of summons.* At a common hall holdyn the same day yt was gred that yf any of the xxiiii<sup>ti</sup> or xlvi<sup>ti</sup> ware warned or somonyd by the officer to com to the common hall or to wayt of Mr Mayer at the fayres or at any other tyme & com not at ther ower appoynted, shall pay ther forfeyt & dutes in the olde acte<sup>5</sup> accustomed.

CXXX. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1556—7<sup>6</sup>.] *Rents...Chapman gild...fines for "frey and blodeshed,"* for y<sup>e</sup> feres<sup>7</sup> money 33s. 7d....Mr Mayre towards the repparacions of the studdy<sup>8</sup> 10s....for mysomer<sup>9</sup> fayre 9s. 9d....*Sum* £42. 14s. 0½d.

*Gyftes of wyne...*seck and gaskyn wyne to my lord Hunttyngdon and my lord Marques<sup>10</sup>...pottell of maul(m)sey and a brode arrowe gyven to the audytours of the duchie.....my lord Shrowsbery, my lord Derby, my lord a Rutland, and my lord Tawbott...Sir Thos. Hastynges...my lord Clinton...Sir Henry Clynton...reynyshe...my lord Seynt John when he sate of the subsydey...Hunttyngdon at the musters...at the sessyons at Myghelmas.....35s. 7d.

<sup>1</sup> terrier.<sup>2</sup> an anacoluthon.<sup>3</sup> inmeats, i.e. entrails.<sup>4</sup> water for brewing, Wright, *Dial. Dict.*<sup>5</sup> See p. 25.<sup>6</sup> Date torn away.<sup>7</sup> fairs.<sup>8</sup> at the Hall.<sup>9</sup> Midsummer.<sup>10</sup> of Northampton.

*Decays...Chief Rents...Fees and other payements...* to the Recorders for their fees fyrst to Mr Farnham 33s. 4d. and to Mr Eytton 20s.... 9 yards of clothe at foure shyllyns the yarde for the weytes gowunes 36s....hyer of a horse to my lord Seynt Johns 8d....Mr Cloughes masse and dyрге 6s. 8d....masse and dyрге for Sir Ric. Hsley<sup>1</sup>...this count day dyner 6s. 8d....one stryke of colles<sup>2</sup> the cownt day 4d.... dyvers charges leyd out for the towne 11s. 11d.

*Reparacions...* glasse about the towne haule...scowryng the Jacks<sup>3</sup> and sweppying of the haule 10d....for a paper to sett upon a womans heed<sup>4</sup> 1d....2 stapuls and a barr the wayght 13*li.* at three pens a pounce 3s. 2d....a hang locke<sup>5</sup> for the towne haule 1s. 6d....rayles, postes and pales for the partysion of C. W.'s wyfes gardyn 8s.... 2 peces of tymber for the cascole<sup>6</sup> 1s....cuckstole...for a staple for the comen stryke at the pyllorye 3d....a dosyn of harnes buccles and an hundrythe harnes nayles 7d....scowryng of 19 almayne ryvytts with splentts and salletts<sup>7</sup> 4s....T. S. for 19 days worke about the studye and S. J. for one day ther meate and drynke 15s....groundcyllyng the studdy with stone worke 6d....plasteryng and sclattynge the studdy 6s. 8d....13 fote of glasse in querres<sup>8</sup> and for caryage from London 5s. 5d....to the glassyer for 2 days worke and meete and drynke 1s. 8d....a pound of sother<sup>9</sup> for the same 4d....to the Church for 9 peces of olde woode for the same studdye and for 44 pounce of leade for the lasse<sup>10</sup> and the gutter 6s. 8½d....8 ouerleyers<sup>11</sup>, 4 grounceles<sup>12</sup> for slyppers<sup>13</sup>, 7 long bords, 6 seylyng<sup>14</sup> bords, and for as muche olde woode as burnyd the plaster, and for seylyng the studdy 10s. 8d....14 mollyons of irene wayng 45 pounce after 1½*li.* a *li.* 6s. 7d....for whyttyng the studdy 1s....for mony lent towards the reparacions of the studdy £7. 16s. 0½d.

*Summa totalis* £38. 8s. 1d. And so remanes £4. 5s. 11d.

<sup>1</sup> See above p. 7, and No. LVII.

<sup>2</sup> coals.

<sup>3</sup> leather coats, plated with iron.

<sup>4</sup> There is frequent allusion to these paper frontlets to be worn by strumpets when carted. Cf. *Gloucester Records*, in *Hist. MSS. Com.* XII. App. ix. p. 435.

<sup>5</sup> padlock.

<sup>6</sup> ? scoldcart.

<sup>7</sup> See p. 56, notes 1, 2 and 4.

<sup>8</sup> apparently squares, or panes: not noted in *N.E.D.* as applying to glass.

<sup>9</sup> solder.

<sup>10</sup> *Prompt Parv.* "lace of an howserofe," ? tie-beam, brace.

<sup>11</sup> See p. 85, note 12.

<sup>12</sup> foundation timbers, or threshold timbers.

<sup>13</sup> sleepers, see Skeat's *Dict.* s. v. *slab*.

<sup>14</sup> ceiling.

CXXXI. *Rules for beer, candles and tallow.*

Hall Book II, p. 28. [Nov. 20, 1557.] *Assize of beer and candle.* All ale after *iiid.* the gallon and *xiii* to the dosyn vnder the syve<sup>1</sup>, and the typpler *iiid.* ob. And for euery parte solde within the house aboue *viid.* & so after the rate & for euery parte *iiiii.*

Candell to be solde after *iiid.* the pounce vpon payne of the forfeyte in the acte for the same provydyd.

Memorandum that no tallowe chaundler dewllyng<sup>2</sup> within the towne of Leycester do sell any candell by holle sale other to townesman or straunger at eny tyme from hensefurthe.

Ibid. p. 30. [*Restraints on the sale of tallow.*] [Nov. 20, 1557.] At a common hall holden at Leycester the *xx*<sup>ti</sup> day of Nouember in the *iiii*<sup>th</sup> & *v*<sup>th</sup> yeares of the reignes of our soueraign lord & lady Phyllypp & Mary, it is agreyd, establysshed, and confirmed by John Erycke then mayre and the rest of the brethern callyd the *xxiiii*<sup>ti</sup> and the wholle companye of the *xlvi*<sup>ti</sup> in the name of the holl body of the same towne, consydering that of late yeres candylles haue bene very scant & deare in the vynter tyme and troblesum to the mayo[r]s and their officers that then hathe bene, which inconuenyence as we thyncke hath cum by cause ther hathe bene so muche tallow sold out of this towne to straungers, wherfore be it ennactyd that from hencefourth no bocher dwellyng within this towne or subhurbes of the same do sell anny tallowe forth of this towne to anny chaundler, straunger or other, from the feast of Seynt Mychell tharchangell vnto the Purification of Our Lady callyd Candelmas, in payne of forfetyng for euery stone that they so sell *xiii.* to be gathered by the Chamberlyns for that yere for the behoue of the chamber of the same towne. Except that the straunger or chaundler that doth bye his tallowe heare wyll be bounden to the mayre for the tyme beyng & tow honeste men of this towne with hym or theym to bryng into the towne for euery stone of tallowe y<sup>at</sup> they bye, *xii* poundes of candyls the next markytt day folowyng.

CXXXII. *The ten wards.*

Hall Book II, p. 32. [Nov. 1557.] The *x* town wardes<sup>3</sup> of the towne of Leycester.

The fyrst warde from the Southe yate vnto Seynt James Chappelle, Mr Aston beyng alderman & Will. Cudworth constable.

<sup>1</sup> new ale.

<sup>2</sup> dwelling.

<sup>3</sup> Cf. the list II. pp. 306-8.

The secounde warde from the Southe yate vnto the Hyeghe Crosse with the Sore Lane and Reed Crosse strete, Mr Nyx beyng alderman, and John Busshe constable.

The thyrde warde from the Hyghe Crosse vnto the Northe yate, Mr Darker beyng alderman, and Jeffery Helmes constable.

The fourth warde from the Northe yate vnto the Northe brydge & Senvygate with the Sore Lane, Mr Bereage alderman and [ ] Blacshawe constable.

The v<sup>th</sup> warde Seynt Nycholas paryshe & so withoute the West yate, Mr Stanforde alderman & [ ] constable].

The vi<sup>th</sup> warde the Swynes Markytt, y<sup>at</sup> is to say from y<sup>e</sup> Hyghe Crosse vnto the Est Yate, Mr Hallam beyng alderman and Tho. Bugg constable.

The vii<sup>th</sup> warde from the Hyghe Strete beyonde Chettelles howse & so all the Chyrche Gate doune to Mr Nicolas Herryke & Parchment Lane, Mr Blakwyn alderman, & Ric. Chetelle constable.

The viii<sup>th</sup> warde all the markytt place, Cank Well, & to y<sup>e</sup> Estgate, Mr Wylcokes beyng alderman and Will. Syngleton constable.

The ix<sup>th</sup> warde Belgrave Gate & Seynt Margarettes Chirchegate, Mr Fletcher beyng alderman & Robt. Wyndell constable.

The x<sup>th</sup> warde from the brydge by the Antylippe, the Roundell & Galtre Gate, Mr Davy alderman, Ric. Reyneford [constable].

#### CXXXIII. *Rule for Chandlers.*

Hall Book II, p. 34. [Jan. 11, 1558.] At the same common hall it is ordenyd & agreyd by the assent & holl consent of the xxiiii<sup>th</sup> & the xlvi<sup>th</sup> for the holl bodye of the towne, that no man shall worke wax nother in tapers nor candelles to be solde but these that be wax chandelers or wyl become of their companye, provydyd that non of the seid occupacion shall take for the making other tapers or other candell aboute a peny a *li*.

#### CXXXIV. *A rate levied.*

Hall Book II, p. 36. [Feb. 6, 1558.] A leyre<sup>1</sup> hade & made thorowe out the whole towne of Leicester the vi<sup>th</sup> of February an. R. R. Phillippe & Marie etc. iii<sup>th</sup> & v<sup>th</sup>, by John Heyrycke then beyng

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<sup>1</sup> A levy or rate.

Mayre, Tho. Wylcockes, Tho. Davynport & John Bereage & other cumburgenses of the same towne as well of the XXIIII<sup>th</sup> & the whole XLVIII<sup>th</sup> as of the rest of the commons of the same towne, towards the setting furth of certyn men to serue the kyng & quenes maiesties in their graces warres as folowyth, and as by a boke made of euery warde partyculerly remeynyng in the counttyng howse more at large may & wyll appere :

In primis in Mr Davyes warde xixs. iiiid.

Item in Mr Darkers warde xviiiis. vid.

Item in Mr Stanforges warde xxiis. iiiid.

Item in Mr Fletchers warde xxxiis. xd.

Item in Mr Astons warde xxviiiis. id.

Item in Mr Blakwyns warde xvs. iiiid.

Item in Mr Halham's warde xxvis.

Item in Mr Nyxs warde xviiiis. xd.

Item in Mr Bereage warde xlvs. xd.

Item in Mr Wylcockes warde xxxixs. viiid.

#### CXXXV. *A gambler bound over.*

Hall Book II, p. 39. [Feb. 10, 1558.] Memorandum y<sup>at</sup> Osholde Heyre of the towne Leycester showmaker came before John Eyrcke Mayre of the same towne the x<sup>th</sup> of February in the yeres abouesaid & vndertoke for hymselfe that he from hensforthe wolde not play at any tyme hereafter for money other at dyce, cardes or tables : but yf he dyd, and the same prouyd by sufficient & honest witnes, that then the same Osholde to forfayte the somme of xls. to be peid to the chamber of the seid towne of Leycester. And for the performance of the same, Antonye Heyre of the same towne of Leycester & mase berear vnto Mr Mayre aforsaid standyth lykwyse bounden in the somme of other xls.

#### CXXXVI. *Whetstone Court charges fixed.*

Hall Book II, p. 41, and Book of Acts, p. 53. [March 4, 1558.] At the same common hall it is agreyd by thanssent & consent of the company of the XXIIII<sup>th</sup> & the holle XLVIII<sup>th</sup>, that from hensefurthe the charges of Whetstone Court shall not amount nor be chargeable to the towne aboue xs. a day.

CXXXVII. *Question of the validity of a deed in English.*

Hall Book II, p. 44. [June 8, 1558.] The ott[er]ynge of John Nevyll Gentlylman: saeyd vpon examynacion for a matter of contraryversey betwext Mr Blakwall & Mr Berd. viii<sup>mo</sup> die Junii annis infrascriptis coram John Eyryck maiore, Thome Wycokes, John Bereadage, et Will. Manby, Justices of the peace within the same toun, etc.

The same John Nevylle before the seid maiore & his breythern seyth that he at the request of the seid Will. Berde made a deade of feofament of the manor of Berde<sup>1</sup> in the countie of Derby from one Will. Ratclyff & one John Dande survyvors of the feoffeys of all the landes & tenementes of John Berde grandfather of the seid Will. Berde, to the seid Will. Berde & theires males of his bodye lawfully begotten with other remeanders as in the same deade apperythe—per me Johannem Neville. The seid John Nevylle seyth further that the seid Will. Berde brought downe a draught of a deade from London drawn in Englyshe by Mr Browne newe serient at the lawe or his clerke, as the seid Will. Berde seid, the efect of which draught was to be made by the seid Ratclyffe & Dande to the seid Berde & his heires males of all the premysses, and by cause the seid deade was in Englyshe & not accordyng to the law, the seid John Nevyll seid to the seid Berde that he hade not seyn any such lyke, wherfore the same Nevylle seid that yf he shulde make him a deade it shold be in Lattyn & so made the deade aboueseid.

John Neville.

CXXXVIII. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1557—8.] *Rents...Chapmans Gylde*...forfyte of candyll...Mr Mayre for tole of horses...forfeyt of the Walkers<sup>2</sup>...for beyng abrod after 9 a cloke ageynst the act<sup>3</sup>...dyvers of the Company of XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> for being absent upon Myghelmas day<sup>4</sup> as wyll appeyre 5s....towards the harnessyng of men 20s....makyng a frey...a brawle...sellyng of ale above thassyse...tole of horses at Mayday feyre...sertyn money that was gathered of the comyners as will appeyre £3. 14s. 10d....more of Mr Mayre and his breythern and of the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> as wyll lykewyse appeyre £4. 6s. 8d....for setting up<sup>5</sup> of a barker...received that was leyste<sup>6</sup> at a pley 14d....of the Steywards of the feyres 10s. 11d....forfeyt of showmakers...*Sum* £49. 12s. 2½d.

<sup>1</sup> Beard.

<sup>2</sup> fullers.

<sup>3</sup> Above p. 73.

<sup>4</sup> Above p. 86.

<sup>5</sup> in his occupation.

<sup>6</sup> lost.

*Gyftes of wyne*...lord Hunttyngdon and my lord marques of Northampton a galland of clarrett wyne and a pottell of Frenche wyne & a pottell of muskadyne 2s. 10*d*....muskadyne...mamsey...reed wine sent to my lord Hunttyngdon when he sett<sup>1</sup> for the lone money 4s. 2*d*....Mr Commensary<sup>2</sup> when Mr Meyre and other of his brethern when<sup>3</sup> to speke for sent Peters church<sup>4</sup> 1s. 2*d*....secke...reynyshe wyne ...to Mr Davynportes to my lord of Shrewysberye upon our ladyes evon before Crystemas...my lord chamberlyns men when they dyd lett the abbey grounds 1s....Mr Geo. Hastings, Mr Cave, when they toke musters 2s....to the Angell unto my lord of Derby and my lord Talbott and my lord Morlay...lord of Lincoln...Mr Temple for carrying of the subsidy booke to London...lord Hunttyngdon at the quarter sessions...the same for a loffe of sugar of 3*li*. 3 quart. 4s. 6*d*. ...secke and for cherys and strawberyes 2s. 6*d*. sent to seynt Leonards to my lady of Suffolke...39s. 6*d*.

*Fees*...Mr Recorder...Mr Moose...stocks in thold hawle...mending of the sowdyers cottres...6 spares for Gartregate 2s....the same payment ...for chasyng of a horse...for gyster<sup>5</sup> of 3 bokes one to Mr Mayre and his brethern and the other 2 to the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> 7s. 4*d*....Quenes players 3s....one that shuld have made a cundyth<sup>6</sup>...a cart to whype vaccabonds 4*d*....caryng of a woman<sup>7</sup> to Enderby...charcole at the setting of lone money 16*d*....for thre tymes wrytting of the supplycacion to my lord Cardinal<sup>8</sup> 1s. 4*d*....skyne of parchment to wryt the same supplycacion 3*d*....tressells in the parler and dressyng of the keytchyn 8*d*....plankes...to mende the brydge in Humberstongate 7*d*....one sheyff of arrowes 3s....2 C. harnys neyilles 6*d*....2 dosyn bockells for the same 7*d*....10 peyre of splents and 7 salletts 4s....dressyng of 10 almayne revytts and 9 swords 4s....17 yards of carsey 26s. 6*d*....whyte carsey...4 yards of lynneyn cloth to lyne the saletts 2s. 4*d*....a *li*. of fokes for the same 4*d*....for halfe an elene<sup>9</sup> of a neyle<sup>10</sup> of rede carsey 1s. 6*d*....neyles to hyng on the harnes...dim. a yard of redd carsey 8*d*....fetheryng of 5 sheyffe of arrowes and for heddes and mending of the casys 5s. 5*d*....makyng of 12 cappō<sup>11</sup> for the salletts 2s. ...a peyre tassysys<sup>12</sup> 1s. 8*d*....3 neyles<sup>13</sup> of redd brode clothes for the synckfoyles<sup>14</sup> 1s. 2*d*....makyng of 6 whyte coyttes<sup>15</sup> 3s. 2*d*....carryng the cockystole twyse to the halle 2*d*....2 boxis to ley in the charter and

<sup>1</sup> sat.<sup>2</sup> Commissary, the Bishop of Lincoln's representative.<sup>3</sup> *sic* ? for went.<sup>4</sup> Which was to be let to the town, see below.<sup>5</sup> ? for register.<sup>6</sup> conduit.<sup>7</sup> a poor woman.<sup>8</sup> Pole.<sup>9</sup> ell, 45 inches.<sup>10</sup> ? for "and a nail" or repeating "of an ell."<sup>11</sup> ?<sup>12</sup> ? tassels.<sup>13</sup> nail = 2½ inches.<sup>14</sup> cinqfoils, the town badge.<sup>15</sup> coats.



leasys 8*d.*...3 bowes bought at London 8*s.*...mending of certyn wells viz. to the well at Seynt Martyns church 5*s.*, to the well at the hycrosse 2*s.* 6*d.*, to the well in Seynt Margaretts churchgate 3*s.* 5*d.* £34. 4*s.* 9*d.*

*Reparacions....Sum...£40. 7*s.* 4*d.** So remains to the towne £9. 4*s.* 10½*d.*

### CXXXIX. *Succession to the Mayoralty.*

Hall Book I<sup>1</sup>, p. 56. [Aug. 25, 1559.] At the common hall holden the day & yere within wrytten before the seid maire & his brethern named the XXIII<sup>th</sup> and the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> in the name of the holl body of the same towne, Will. Reynold one of the comburgenses of the same towne came personally before the seid Mayre & his breyther & the XLVIII<sup>th</sup>, and consydering the succession of the meraltie of the towne of Leicester, accordyng to the auncient custome of the same towne at the feast of Seynt Mathewe thappostelle next commyng, shuld haue come to the seid Will. Reynold, and the same William requested to be dymysed of the eleccion of the seid meraltie for this tyme and duryng the space of thre yeres, vpon condicion followyng; that is to sey yf the seid Will. happen to depart this world at any tyme within the seid iii yeres then the seid Will. his heires executors or assignes to pay to the chamber of the seid towne ymedyaty within one moneth next after his deceasse fyve poundes of lawfull money of Englund, and yf the seid Will. fortune to lyve during the seid iii yeres, then the seid Will. to haue the eleccion of the seid meraltie at thende of the seid iii yeres & to execute the same, and further yf the seid Will. do absent himselfe furthe of the seid towne of Leicester at any tyme before the seid iii yeres and refuse the seid office then the seid Will. his heires executors or thassignes to pay vnto the chamber of the seid towne tenne poundes of lyke money of Englund.

### CXL. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1558—9.] *Rents...Chapmans Gylde...butchers for ther ordynall...shwmakers for there ordynall...bakers...glovers...cowpers...tayllors...Sum...£57. 14*s.* 4*d.**

*Gyftes of wyne...Justices when they toke musters...lorde of Lowghborow...Mr Doctor Cave...Lord Hastyngs when he received the byll of the subsidye...36*s.* 11*d.**

*Fees*...wydowes of St Jones<sup>1</sup> for mendynge of there bell 1s.... kuckstole...carters that brought turves to y<sup>e</sup> toune butts...<sup>2</sup> theles for the bryges in Humberstongate 2s. 4*d*....a vartvale<sup>2</sup> for the Cowehy 22*d*....my lorde of Huntingdon bearward 5s.

*Sum*...£29. 14s. 0*d*. So remane to the towne £28. 7s. 0*d*.

### CXLI. *A rate levied for the charter.*

Hall Book II, p. 64. [Oct. 29, 1559.] At a hall holden at Leycester the xxix<sup>th</sup> daye of October in the firste yere of the reigne of our Soueraign ladye Elizabeth by the grace of God quene of England Fraunce & Ireland etc. defendor of the feyth etc. Before Mr Tho. Stanforde mayor of the same towne of Leycester and his brethern of the same towne, namyd the xxiiii<sup>th</sup>, in the name of the xlviij<sup>th</sup> and the holl bodye of the same towne, at the same hall yt was condysioned that there shold be a leyre made within the towne in maner of a fyftene, for the charges of the confrmacion of the charter with other thinges belongynge to the same towne, in maner & forme folowinge, that is to sey, euery one of the xxiiii<sup>th</sup> to pay iiis. iiij*d*. apeece, now lackynge, of the same xxiiii<sup>th</sup>, iii, and of the xlviij<sup>th</sup> euery one of theym to pay xx*d*. apeece, and the recydue to be geythered of the holl comynaltie.

The xxi<sup>th</sup> cummyth then to iii*li*. xs.

The xlviij<sup>th</sup> cummyth to iii*li*.

Geytherid besyde of the holl comynaltie iii*li*. xiiiis.

Summa totalis xi*li*. iiiis.

### CXLII. *Charter of Elizabeth.*

Roll 498. [Nov. 14, 1559.] Charter of Elizabeth confirming the charter of Mary [No. CXX above].

### CXLIII. *Journey to London to try the liberties.*

Hall Book II, p. 59. [April 28, 1560.] Att the same common hall it was agreed betwene the seid mayor & comynaltye in the name

<sup>1</sup> Almswomen.

<sup>2</sup> A hinge, or, as the price is high, some large kind of fastening. This spelling shews that the *vertinellus*, *vertinella* of *Prompt. Parv.* and *Catholicon* should be (as in Ducange) *vertivella*. The mistake is made above i. 246, 297 and glossary and ii. 345 and glossary.

of the holl bodye of the same towne that Mr Mayre & ii or iii of his brethren whom he woll apoynt shall goo vp to London, at the terme folowinge & to trye the libertiez of the same towne, & to do other busynes there, at the discreesson of Mr Mayre, and have appoynted John Eyrycke to be Lefetenaunte in his absence for that tyme beinge.

CXLIV. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1559—60.] *Rents etc.*...tolc of the horse fear at Mydsomer 1s. 8d....for Meday fear<sup>1</sup>...Mychelmas fear...glovers for their ordynall 8s. 4d....showmakers for the lyke 4s....overplus of the money that was gathered for the setting forth of the men that went with Mr Danett<sup>2</sup> £1. 18s. 3d....tailors for their ordynall...£74. 8s. 7½d.

*Gyftes of wyne*...lord of Huntington and my lord Loughborough at thabbe<sup>3</sup> 9s. 4d....the prechar...Mr Dannett and the Justyces...Countys of Huntynghon at the Newarke...at thetyng of buck...at the musters at seynt Margaretts churche...one sugar lofe, one dosyn of checkyngs<sup>4</sup>, one box of byskyttis and one box of caraweis gyvyn more to the countess of Huntynghon...2li. of fygges...12 penyworth of cakes, 8 pennyworthe of pears, when Sir Ambres Cave, Chaunceller of the Duche, was at the Newarke 13s. 8d....the quenes plears besyde the money that was gatheryd 3s. 4d....£4. 2s. 4d.

*Fees (etc.)*...charges at London more then was gathered for the renewyng of the charter 16s....to the Swineherd 1d....purcevaunt for bryngyng downe a commyssyon 3s. 4d....harnysyng of the foure soldyers (that) went forth wyth Mr Barkeley more then gathered £4. 1s. 4d....that went forth with Mr Antwesley...the laborers that went to Barwycke<sup>2</sup> 6s. 8d....*Sum*...£44. 2s. 5d. So remane to the towne £30. 8s. 2½d.

CXLV. *A woman bound over not to eat flesh in Lent.*

The condycion of this recognizans is suche that if Jane Kynysworth wif of Frauncis Kynysworth of Leyster the yonger do at all tymes & from tyme to tyme make her personall apparaunce before Rychard Darker mayer of Leycester, or his successors, mears of the towne of Leicester, at all suche tyme as the said mayor or said successors shall

<sup>1</sup> May Day fair.

<sup>3</sup> the abbey.

<sup>2</sup> To Berwick for the Scotch war.

<sup>4</sup> chickens.

requere hir said presentes & apparaunce at suche place as she therto shalbe appoyntyd by the said maior, and then & there do stand to & abyde all suche punyshementes orders & direccions as shalbe taken by the said maior or his said successors, for & towchyng her disobay-saunce & offence ageinst one proclamacion made & set forth by the quenes maiestie for the restrent or prohibicion for eytyng of [f]leyshe in the tyme of Lent or vppon any Frydaye or other daye prohibytd: that then this recognizaunce<sup>1</sup> to be voyd & of non effect or els to stand & be (of) ful stryngthe effect & vertue.

CXLVI. *Account of R. Newcome's Executors.*

Unnumbered roll, with chamberlains' account rolls. [April, 1561.] Thaccoumpte of Rich. Pratte one of the executoures of the testament of Roberde Newcombe of Leicester belfownder deceased.

*Oneratio.* Firste this accoumptante chardgeth himselfe with all the goodes of his testator contened in thinventarie therof made and remayninge in this courte amountinge to the somme of £175. 4s. 0d.

Item he chardgeth himselfe further with debtes by him received since the saide inventarie exhibited & due to his said testator (etc.) £86. 12s. 8d.

Firste received of the townshippe of Keteringe £8. 10s. 0d. (and from the following townships, in sums varying between 8s. and £9. 9s. 0d.)—Eden, Stretton, Hamerbroughe (sic), Kyrbie, Brampton, Walgrave, Gedingeton, Welforde, Langeton, Woodno, Allwinckle, Medbourne, Hamingeton, Clipstone, Hawnebie, Allwinckle, Kyrbie, Wysawe, Belton, Brixworthe, Philongeley, Harroudon, Theddinge-worthe, Barseevell, Welforde, Thorpe Malsworthe and Sudboughe. Total £261. 16s. 8d. whearof the saide accoumptante is to be allowed...

Firste for the funerall chardges of the saide testator, £6. 13s. 4d.

For legacies to Ales the wyffe...£31. 13s. 4d.

For the legacie...to Edwarde and William ii of his sonnes...to either...xxli....£40.

For...legacies payde to Anne his daughter, viz. in monney £23. 6s. 8d. & in plate £31. 6s. 8d.

For his legacie to his Curate 3s. 4d.

For his legacie to 5 men servantes, to everie of them 10s....50s.

For his legacie to 2 maydes 10s.

For his legacie to the poore 20s.

<sup>1</sup> that of her surety Will. Durant, slater.

For his legacie to the overseers of hys testament 20s.

For the mortuarie 10s.

For the probate of the testament and the chardges therof 33s. 4d.

For the chardges of kepinge of 4 childrene of the testator...and  
2 maydes to attende them and to kepe the apparrell of the house  
for...16 weekes £10. 13s. 4d.

The wages of two servantes £4. 2s. 4d.

For so much diminished of the price of certeine metall expressed  
in the inventarie £12. 13s. 4d.

For so much dyminished in the price of the woode £3. 6s. 8d.

" " " " " " of the barke £1. 6s. 8d.

" " " " " " of 2 kyne 32s.

Summa £150. 14s. 4d.

*Debts (payde since the testators death).*

Fyrste paide to Will. Norris of Leicester for a pair of quarnes<sup>1</sup> 15s.

For 2*li.* of onion seed 3s.

To Fraunces Mose for chardges in the lawe 3s. 8d.

Owing to the Sadler 14s.

For a bale of flaxe 2s.

For the redemption of certaine leather of the testators claimed as  
forfaite 13s. 4d.

For an oxe hyde 6s. 8d.

For ale £3. 18s. 0d.

For breade 50s.

For spicerie owinge to the poticarie 4s. 4d.

For suinge<sup>2</sup> to Harte the Smythe 10d.

For dyinge of clothe 2d.

For the grasse of a stiere 5s. 4d.

For lathe and nailes 9s. 6d.

Summa £10. 7s. 7d.

*Chardges for the childerne of the testator since his deceasse.*

Firste gyven to Anne Newcombe when she wente to remaine  
with her aunte 6s. 4d.

For mendinge the childrens cotes 1s.

For 2 yardes of buckram to lyne the same cote 1s. 6d.

For dim. an elle of clothe to lyne the vpper boddie 8d.

For 2 shurtes 2s. 4d.

For 3 yardes of friese to make Edwarde a cote 3s.

<sup>1</sup> querns, hand-mills.

<sup>2</sup> horse-shoeing.

For 3 yarges of clothe to make William a cote 3s.

For mendinge the childrens shoves 4*d*.

For Elizabeth Newcombes boorde at Mr Herrickes for 12 weekes 13*s*. 4*d*.

For a paire of hose and shoves for her 1*s*. 10*d*.

For a felte hat for her 3*s*.

For 8 yarges of russels<sup>1</sup> to make her a frocke 28*s*.

For halfe an elle of worsted for her sleeves 1*s*.

For 3 yarges of buckeram to lync her frocke 2*s*. 6*d*.

For halfe a quarter of sarcenet to the same 1*s*.

For an other hat for her 5*s*.

For an other frocke for the same Elizabeth againste Whitsontide last past of 10 yarges of russels 30*s*.

For 6 yarges of buckeram to lync the same 5*s*.

For one elle of fustian to lync the bodies 1*s*.

For a quarter of velvet for the cape 3*s*.

For half a quarter of sarcenett to the same 10*d*.

For thicke sayse<sup>2</sup> for the plaites 1*s*. 10*d*.

For the makinge of the same 2*s*.

For a yarde of worsted to make her an apron 1*s*. 8*d*.

For clothe to make her a smocke 2*s*.

For halfe an elle of clothe to make her 2 kerchiefes 2*s*.

For the chardges of Roberte Newecombe by the space of 3 yeares and a halfe at 6*li*. a yere £21.

For the chardges of Margaret Newecombe for one yeaere and a quarter at £6 the yeaere £7. 10.

Summa £34. 14*s*. 2½*d*.

*The chardges (for the will and debts).*

For collectinge of the debtes £6. 13*s*. 4*d*.

(For travelling) £7.

Summa £13. 13*s*. 4*d*.

Summa summarum allocatarum<sup>3</sup> £209. 9*s*. 6½*d*.

So remayneth in the handes of this accomptante £52. 7*s*. 1*d*. ob.

And yet this accomptante standeth awnserable to Roberte, Elizabeth, Marjerie and Marget, 4 of the childrene of the said testator, to everie of them £20 and to Anne Duckett £6. 13*s*. 4*d*. and 6 siluer spones by estimacion 30*s*. £88. 3*s*. 4*d*.

So that the same accomptante is nowe in surplusage £35. 16*s*. 2½*d*.

<sup>1</sup> A kind of satin, Halliwell's *Glossary*.

<sup>2</sup> ? cloth of say.

<sup>3</sup> Sum of the sums allowed.

Towards the levyinge whearof theare ar remayninge towards this accountante debtes desperate due to his saide testator as well by specialtie as withoute as particularlie followeth.

(Total of the debtes desperate £39. 12s. 8d.)

# CXLVII. Chamberlains' Account.

[1560—1.] *Rents ... Receipts ...* sufferying unlawfull game in his howse 3s. 4d....for gamyng 6s. 6d....taken in privye wache...a fray of 2 of the countrie in the market daye...a fray (5 entries)...for beyng from a common (hall) (5 entries)...for pynnyng of cattell contrary to an act<sup>1</sup> made at a common hall...for certyn grase that W. Worship had of the common pece...stewards of the fayres...taylors ordynall... the bochers ... shomakers ... drapars ... sharmen<sup>2</sup>... glovers...the lyke...

*Sum* £89. 2s. 4d.

*Gyftes of wyne*...lorde of Shrosbury & my lorde of Huntyngdon... Mr Barker chaunceler at the angell...Justices of Assysyous<sup>3</sup>...lorde of Huntingdon when he shott in the forest...my lady of Loughborogh at the abbey. .6 cople of capons, a dosyn of chekyns and 4 dosyn of larks...£2. 0s. 4½d.

*Fees* (etc.)...the purcyvant that brought down the stamper... Mr Moose for bryngyng downe the quiest<sup>4</sup> for the fyftene...for dressyng the corne wall...lord Willowbys plears more then was gaythered 1s. 4d....Mr Henry Foskew<sup>5</sup> plears more then was gaythered 3s.... 4 sessyons dinners...parchements & wax for 2 sartyfyccates of quysyccions<sup>6</sup> for etyng of fleshe in Lent 1s. 6d....my lorde of Suffolkes plears more then was gathered 3s....mendyng and gyldyng the great mase with mendyng the new headds of the chamberlyns staves 24s. 8d.... grenyng<sup>7</sup> of the staves...Belgrave men for 14 carts a daye 5s. 8d.... ale a gallon and a halfe that was gyven to the sarvaunts 1s. 4d.... reward...for bryngyng 2 buckes to Mr Mayor and his bretherne from my lord of Huntyngdon 5s....bryngyng a bucke...to the XLVIII<sup>th</sup>... more for a bucke brought from my lorde of Loughborowe 3s. 4d. gyven to Mr Mayor and his brethren....

*Reparacions*...mendyng the byn fold<sup>8</sup>...dryvyng of the wawall<sup>9</sup> to heng the yat of<sup>10</sup> 2d....tressels to the long borde at the towne hall

<sup>1</sup> See above, p. 12.

<sup>2</sup> shearmen, shearers of cloth.

<sup>3</sup> Assizes.

<sup>4</sup> request.

<sup>5</sup> Fortescue?

<sup>6</sup> inquisitions.

<sup>7</sup> painting the staves green.

<sup>8</sup> pinfold.

<sup>9</sup> varvale, hinge, see above p. 94, note 2.

<sup>10</sup> yat of=gate on.

27*s.* 2*d.*...the buttrye dore of the towne hall and for mendyng the locke (of) gaynsborow chamber...lattysyng of the chamber wyndowes...the fot stolles in the parlour...mendyng the glasse wyndowes... 2 great doggs of iron weing 20*li.* with bred<sup>1</sup> to neall them wythall 5*s.* whych were occupyed about the galare<sup>2</sup> goyng to the chamber over the long entre...swepyng of gaynsborowe chamber and for the betyng and brussyng<sup>3</sup> of the sholders<sup>4</sup> cotes 6*d.*...framyng of the syllys<sup>5</sup> together that be under the hall benche...to Butlers men for drawyng of Kockestol<sup>6</sup> form (*sic*) Butlers howse to the markett place....

*Sum* £39. 7*s.* 4*d.*.. to the towne £49. 7*s.* 4*d.*

#### CXLVIII. *Assize of Beer and Candle and other notes.*

Hall Book II, p. 76. [Nov. 21, 1561.] *Assisa seruice.* Ale at iii*d.* the galon vnder the syue & xii to the dosyn & the typler to selle for iii*d.* ob. the gallon & not aboue; & that strong ale be not sold aboue iiiii*d.* the gallon & so after the rat<sup>7</sup> as well wythin dore as wythout & if any selle aboue after seynt Andrewes day next shall forfytt for euery defalt vis. viii*d.*, & they that wyll present the defalt to haue thone halfe, & thiother to the vse of the chamber of the towne & so lykewyse of all other forfytures.

*Assisa Candelle.* Candell after i*d.* ob. a pound to be lefull stuffe & good weight vpon pean of vis. viii*d.* for euery defalt.

Ibid. p. 78. [? Nov. 21, 1561.] Part of a Latin agreement with a farmer who agrees that the inhabitants of Leicester shall have agistment in a certain pasture (unnamed) for milch-cows throughout the year for their own houses, and for their own horses on which they ride, at 2*d.* per horse per week, and 1*d.* per cow.

Latin note that the vicarage of St Martin's is worth £6. 13*s.* 8*d.* a year, the tithe 13*s.* 4*d.*, and the vicarage of St Peter's 45*s.*, the tithe 4*s.* 6*d.*

#### CXLIX. *Borough Ordinances and notes.*

Hall Book II, p. 78. [Feb. 20, 1562.] Fyrst thaccompt taken & red.

(*Ordinals.*) Item that no new matter be put into any ordynall that hath not hertofore be accustomed but it shalbe furst agreyd apon at a common hall or at the lest by the Mear for the tyme beyng & tow iustycees of the peas with hym.

<sup>1</sup> brads.

<sup>2</sup> gallery.

<sup>3</sup> brushing.

<sup>4</sup> soldiers'.

<sup>5</sup> beams.

<sup>6</sup> cuckingstool.

<sup>7</sup> rate.



(*Sermons.*) Item that there be of euery howse one at euery sarmon vpon Wenday & Freydaye, apon pean of euery howsolder making defalt to forfytt *iiiiid.*

(*Sunday closing.*) Item that no<sup>1</sup> vyttyller kepe open his dore in seruys tyme vpon the sabot daye or holy dayes, shall forfytt for euery defalt *iiis. iiiid.* common inkepers onely except.

Item & that no[n] kepe open their shope wyndow nor dore in seruys tyme vpon lyke pean.

(*Collection for the poor.*) Item that there be order taken in euery parisshe that ii be chosen to make colleccion for the pore.

(*Chapman's Gild.*) Item that euery st[r]aunger that hath not bene prentys in this towne nor borne in the same shall paye for his fredom of the towne *xxs.* & otherwyse no straunger to be made free of the chapmans gylde.

Ibid. p. 79. [May 6, 1562.] Note of "harness" and weapons delivered to each constable (8 named), a bill and two sallets to each.

Ibid. p. 80. [July 5, 1562.] (*A rate agreed on.*) At the same common hall it was establisshed & agreid that euerye one of the *XXIII* called the mears breth[r]en shall paye & delyuer to the chamberlyns *xxs.* & euery one of the *XLVIII xs.*, to be paid one<sup>2</sup> Frydaye nexte towards the reparyng of the towne agaynst the quenes maiestes comyng, & also that euery alderman wythin hys one<sup>3</sup> warde shall bryng in the names of euery one of the commonaltee dwelling wythin his said ward able to be taxed on Wendy<sup>4</sup> next, to be taxed & sessed by Mr Mayor & other Justices, euery one to be taxse & sessed accordyng [to] his abylyte & by their discreesson.

(*Pavement.*) Also it is further ordenyd & establisshed that euery one shall se the pament payyd before his dore & compas of his howse immediatly vpon pean to forfytt for euery defalt. Also that (blank).

Ibid. p. 81. A note that a man declared the day before his death that his son was a bastard, signed "Tho. Hallam," the Mayor's autograph.

List of sureties (Schewartes) for the waits' collars, with the name of three waits.

Copy of the borough officers' oaths as in II. 319—323, with the change "So help me God and by the holy contentes of this boke" instead of "So help me God and all saints."

In the oath of the Mayor's brethren read as in II. 320, with the changes added in the notes, but for "Mayor and Juries" the present MS. has "Mr Mayor, Justices." The assize of bread and ale, not wine, is mentioned. In the oath of "fishsayers" the clause concerning common cooks is omitted. In the "flesh-sayer's" oath the clause on baited (here *beaten*) bull-flesh is copied and struck through. The "freborowes" are called Thyrdobarowes. In the ale-taster's oath for "borough" read "ward." The MS. ends with the "oath of occupations," and on p. 87 the Recorder's oath to the Queen has been inserted.

<sup>1</sup> anacoluthon.

<sup>2</sup> on.

<sup>3</sup> own.

<sup>4</sup> Wednesday.

CL. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1561—2.] (torn.) *Rents...Receipts...*for comyng into the hall wyth whyt hoose and without a gowne 1s...

*Gyftes of wyne...*lord of Loughborowe...Erle of Northumberland...lord of Shrosbery...bysshop of Lytchefeld...Mr Fysshers...dressyng of venyson at the hall...

*Fees* etc....queenes plears...to one plear that pleid alone (torn)...to the weats for pleyng before Mr Mayor at Michelmas fear 2s...lorde Chauncelers clerke for recevyng tow inquisyons...Mr Mayor's seall 4d...lorde of Hundyngdon bearwarde more (torn).

*Reparacions...*Cowheybridge...bridge in Humberstongate...2 theles<sup>1</sup> and other wood to make stulpes<sup>2</sup> for the furnes in the hall...3 duche lockes<sup>3</sup>...stulpes at the muchill<sup>4</sup>...mendyng gaynsborowe 5d...dowble locke for the stokes at the heigh crosse...

*Sum* £39. 1s. 5½d....de claro £62. 2s. 0d.

CLI. *Borough Ordinances.*

Hall Book II, p. 89. [Nov. 20, 1562.] *Housing of strangers.* Item it was agreid, constytutyd, ordenyd & poyntyed by the said Mear, burgences, & XLVIII, in the name of the wholl bodye of the towne, that no mane shall receue, haue or kepe in his howse any straunger aboute three dayes<sup>5</sup> wythout notys therof gyuyn to Mr Mear for the tyme beyng, or els to the alderman of the ward, vnles they knowe from wense they come and knowe them to be honest & of honest behauyor & will so vndertake for them, vpon pean to forfytt for every day doying the contrarye vis. viiij.

Book of Acts, p. 38. [Nov. 21, 1562.] *No bocher shall [sell] anye fleche on the Sonnedayes.* No bocher shall selle or cause to be sold wythin the said towne of Leicester or suburbis of the same any maner of fleshe on the Sonnedayes after vii of the clocke in the mornyng vntyll suche tyme as all maner of deuyne seruyce be done in the parishe churches vpon pean to forfytt for euery defalt xiiij.<sup>6</sup>

*No mylner to carye anye corne on the Sonnedaye before seruyce.* Item at the same common hall it was agreid and establessed by thoctoryte

<sup>1</sup> deals, planks.

<sup>2</sup> posts.

<sup>3</sup> Dutch locks.

<sup>4</sup> muckhill.

<sup>5</sup> In accordance with the old Anglo-Saxon law of "hosting."

<sup>6</sup> Corr. from vis. viiij.

aforesaid<sup>1</sup> that no mylner nor lodysman<sup>2</sup> shall carry or cause to be caryed any maner of corne, malt or meall to or from their mylles on the same dayes vntyll the euynge prayar be done in all or most parishe churches within the towne of Leicester apon pean to forfytt for euery tyme so takyn xiid.<sup>3</sup>

(*Renewal of old lawes.*) Item that all good & lawdable customes hertofore made & in this present boke wryttyn shall stand & be in their forse, strength & effect † & also that euery person or persons that wyll present any offender of or in the said goodly lawes, rules, ordynaunces or decreis to Mr Mear for the tyme beyng shall haue thone halfe of euery suche forfyture as shalbe by any suche offender or offenders forfyted & thother halfe to remean to the chamber of the said towne of Leicester.†

*Non man depart from the common hall before it be done.* Item that no man depart from<sup>4</sup> any common hall after that he hath made his aperaunce before suche tyme that Mr Mear for the tyme beyng depart, wythout lysence of the said mear, vpon pean to forfytt for euery defalt vid.

*No mucke to be lead in anye place but within the staken.* Item it is further agreid & establated by thoctoryte aforesaid that no maner of person whatsoeuery they be, chyld, seruaunt or other person, that doth ley any mucke in any other place in the strets or lanes wythin the towne or suburbes of Leicester aforesaid, other then in suche places as is now or hereafter shal be apoyntyed for the same, shall forfytt for euery suche defalt iiiid. † in maner & forme as is aforesaid † thone halfe therof to the chamber of the towne.

*Euery ward to haue ale tastars.* Item that there shal be in euery ward tow ale tastars whych shal be sworne to assaye & tast ale in euery ward of the said towne & that no brewar tune<sup>5</sup> out ale before the said ale taster haue assayd it that it be good & holsome for mans body & not red, rope<sup>6</sup> nor rawe, vpon pean to forfytt for euery defalt vis. viiid. & the said ale tasters to do their offyce apon the lyke pean.

*Non to tunne to sell before the ale tasters haue tastyd it.* Item that they that be brewars & tune forth shall not typpyll<sup>7</sup> apon pean of forfiteure for euery defalt vis. viiid.

<sup>1</sup> i.e. that of the 24 and 48.

<sup>2</sup> carrier.

<sup>3</sup> Corr. from vis. viiid.

<sup>4</sup> MS. form.

<sup>5</sup> tun.

<sup>6</sup> ropy, viscous, see II. 288, note 5.

<sup>7</sup> sell ale by retail.

CLII. *Act for Orphans' Goods and other Ordinances.*

Book of Acts, p. 40. [May 5, 1563.] <sup>1</sup>Memorandum this acte for orphants goodes hereunder written was vocated<sup>2</sup> and made voyde at [a common hall] holden the xvii of Aprill Anno xiiii<sup>3</sup> Elizabethe regine before Mr Will. Gillot then Mayer, Rob. Braham esquier recorder and y<sup>e</sup> xxiiii and xlviii. And a newe act for the same more at large by them then and there agreed upon, made and sett downe in the tyme of the meraltye of the said Will. Gillot Mayer at the same common hall as in this Book dothe appeyre at large<sup>4</sup>.

† *An Act for Orphanes goodes.* The boke of orders for the orphanes goodes wythin the towne of Leicester confirmed & agreid by Mr Wyll. Raynold maior of the same towne & his bretherne the xxiiii<sup>5</sup> comburgences & the xlviii in the name of the wholl comonaltie of the same towne, at a common hall there holden the fyft daye of Maye in the fyft yere of the reign of our soueraigne lady Elizabeth by the grace of God of Englund Fraunce & Ireland quene etc. defender of the fayth etc. for euer to endure as followyth hereafter.

Inprimis it is agreid that all maner of persons being franchized men departing this world [<sup>5</sup>either] makyng a Will [or die intested] and bequethyng to his childern any legasie or legases [or otherwise, *<that> ought to com <to> & be to his or their children<sup>6</sup>*, that then] the executor or executors, executrix or administrator [or administratrix] of any freman being dicessed as is aforesaid, hauyng warnyng and commaundement from the maior by his seriant, shall come before the maior and chamberlyns wythin viii dayes after the deathe of the testator [or testators] and ther shall certifye in wrytting the name of the testator & howe many children soche testator hath left behynd hym or hir, wyth their seuerall names & legasis or portions in their keping and shall bring in sufficient suretes [to be taken only of townes men], to be bound to the said maior and chamberleins by obligacion in a certen somme by them to be lynited, to be forfeited to the vse of the childe or children vpon condicon hereafter mencioned, vpon payne of xxs. to be forfyt to the vse of the chamber of the towne for euery soche defalt.

<sup>1</sup> Marginal note.

<sup>2</sup> vacated, made void.

<sup>3</sup> Ap. 17, 1572.

<sup>4</sup> See below, Book of Acts, p. 60.

<sup>5</sup> [] inserted above the line in another hand, and so throughout the whole document.

<sup>6</sup> The italicized words are not in the version of 1572.

And it is agreid further y<sup>at</sup> the executor executors or executrix or administrator [or admynystatrice] of the same man or woman, or soche person or persons as shall haue the custodie of soche legacie or legacies, shall come in before the maior & chamberlyns of Leicester wythin one monethe next after the deathe of the testator and then & there to ley in good sureties [to be taken of townes men as before sayd] for the said legacie or legacies so giuen to the said childe or children to be well & trulye payd & delyuerid to them & euery of them at suche dayes & tymes [as is] contained in the last will of the said testator.

And if the said testator or executors [or executrix] or administrators [or administratrice] or any other that shall haue the custodie of the said legacie or legacies as is aforesaid, being a franchized man & in the towne dwellyng, will refuse the custodie or occupieng of the said stoke<sup>1</sup>, that then the said maior & chamberlaines shall take it vnto the next of the blood being franchiseid and in the towne dwellyng, findyng suretie as is aforesaid: and if they or any of them refuse it, then shall the said maior & chamberlaines put it to soche other franchized men in the towne dwellyng as they shall thynke best vpon good & suffycyent sureteis [as aforesaid] or gage for the same at the discrecion of the said maior & chamberlaines, to be paid & delyuered as is aforesaid.

(p. 41.) And if the executors [executrice] or administrators [or administratrice] or other person [or persons as] is aforesaid hauyng conuenyent warnyng by the maiors seriant [and] come not in before the maior & chamberlaines at the daye apointed by the said maiors seriant, that then the said executor or executors or other person as is aforesaid shall forfyte for euery day after vis. viii*l.* to the chamber of the said towne for his or their absens vntyll he or they do come in.

And also it is agreed that the said partie or parties so receuyng the said childrens stoks & leyinge in sufficient sureties [as aforesaid] to the said maior & chamberlaines shall paye to the maior then being, at the sealyng of euery bound<sup>2</sup> iiis. iiiii*l.* if the stocke amount to or aboue xx*l.* and if it do amount under xx*l.* the maior shall [then] haue at thensalyng<sup>3</sup> but xx*l.* And also to the clarke that maketh the bound & kepithe the recorde at thensealinge of euery bond iis. vi*l.* whether the stocke be vnder or aboue xx*l.* And to paye to the maior's seriant at euery bound takyng xii*l.* how muche or how lytell so euer the stocke be.

<sup>1</sup> stock.

<sup>2</sup> bond.

<sup>3</sup> the sealing.

And further more at the payment & delyuerye of the said stocke vnto the said orphant or orphantes when they shall receue their said stock in lyke manor to paye vnto the chamber or chamberlaines to the vse of the chamber for the good assurance and meinteninge [of the] stocke iiii*s*. iiii*d*. if the said [stocke] amount aboue xx*l*. and if it amount vnder xx*l*, the said chamber or chamberlyns shall haue but xxx*d*. All the residue of the children when they shall receiue their portions shall paye vnto the maior at that tyme being, a gallon of wyne in token & knoledge therof.

Also if any of the said sureties do departe this world before the said legacie or legacies be paid & delyuered, that then the sureties suruyuing shall bringe vnto the maior and chamberlaines other sufficient sureties [as aforesaid] soche as the said maior and chamberlaines shal be content wythall, to be bound as is aforesaid within xx<sup>ti</sup> dayes after the deathe of any soche [suretie or] sureties, or els to surrender the holl legacie or legacies that they were suretie for to the maior and chamberlaines, vpon payne of xls. for euerie daye makinge default after.

Item it [is] agreid and concluded that the partie or parties that will haue the custodye of the orphantes goodes shall lykewise of his or their owne propre goodes & cattalles find the orphantes meat, drinke, clothe, & all other thynges mete & conuenient for them duryng so long tyme as they shall remean in their custodye or els that the said goodes & legacies shal be ordered as the maior, his brethern & chamberlaines shall apoint best to be done for the more profytt of the child or children.

<sup>1</sup>And yt is further agreed that yf any tyme hereafter yt fortune that suche suertye or suerties as shal be hereafter bounde beinge at the tyme of there bounde<sup>2</sup> Townesmen, shall dwell forthe & departe the Towne, that then the partye or parties which haue the custody of suche legacye or orphanage<sup>3</sup> shall within one moneth next after the going awaye of suche suertye or suerties, put in newe suerties of townesmen, suche as shal be thought by the mayor and chamberleyans for the tyme beinge sufficient and able, vpon payne to forfeyt to the chamber of the Towne for eche day after the said moneth passed vis. viii*d*.<sup>4</sup>

Hall Book II, p. 91. [May 5, 1563.] (*Leather Fair*.) Fyrst it [is] agreid that the morowe after Mychelmas Daye & the morowe after Maye Daye there shalbe ii lether fears, & that proclamation

<sup>1</sup> added in another hand.

<sup>2</sup> bond.

<sup>3</sup> orphanage = orphan's share.

therof be made & the fear to be kept betwyxt Seynt Johns crosse & the Norgate<sup>1</sup>.

(*Orphans' goods.*) It is agreid that the order for orphantes goodes shalbe intred & take place & effect as it is in the paper boke, sygned wyth Mr Mayors one hand, Mr Recorders & dyuers other as well in the name of the xxiiii<sup>th</sup> & the xlviii<sup>th</sup> & that from hensforth it shall take [effect].

(*Borough leases.*) Item that herafter no leas shalbe made to any maner of person or persones of any of the townes landes but the lease<sup>2</sup> shalbe bound in obligacion to kepe reparacions & a[l]l couenauntes compriseid in their leas or leases.

A note follows recording the names of 4 men who had a bill and a sallet or two sallets each; one has in place of a bill "a skythe," ? scythe.

### CLIII. *Weight of St Peter's Bells.*

Hall Book II, p. 92. [Sept. 21, 1563.] The weight of the belles of seynt Peters weyd before Mr Davye, mayor, Mr Darker, Mr Pare, Mr Norys, Rob. Rodes, & Rob. Davye, chamberlyne, & Tho. Newcombe with others. The great bell weys xi c. xvi*li*, the third bell viii c. dim. quart. xxvi*li*, the second bell vi c. dim. quart. xviii*li*, the fore bell v c. x*li*.

Summa totalis xxxii c. xiii*li*.

### CLIV. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1562—3.] *Rents...Receptes...ordynals...for the tole bothe 4s....* absent from a common hall (6)...—*Sum* £119. 13*s*. 0½*d*.

*Gyftes of Wyne...lorde of Huntingdon...Mr Cave...at the possesyon takyng of the hall<sup>3</sup>...wyne and shewgar gyven to Mr Day precher 2*s*....cowple of capu(n)s half a dosen of queles, a galon of seke and a dosen of chekyns gyvyn to my lorde of Loughborowe 16*s*. 4*d*. ...bysshop of Lyncolne...my lorde Oxford players more then was gaythred 4*s*....Master Chanceler...Erle of Lynnys<sup>4</sup>...clarke of mar-kytt...quenes gester 3*s*. 4*d*....*

*Fees* (etc.)...Mr Sherif for retornyng the writ for the burgeses of parlement 5*s*....Mr Manby that he lead out for the purchase of the

<sup>1</sup> Corr. from "the Sowthgate and the grefrear yatte (Grayfriar gate) at † Saynt Johns †."

<sup>2</sup> lessee.

<sup>3</sup> See below.

<sup>4</sup> ? Lennox.

hall...more to Mr Recorder for the same hall that he lead out and for his peans 53s. 4d....pottying in<sup>1</sup> the inquysyciu(n)s for inquiry of etyng of fleshe 4s....to Mr Manby that he paid to Mr Sheriffes man for wrytting the statutes 1s....brusshyng the soldyars cotes 4d....at etyng of venyson more then was gaythered 6s. 8d....makyng the pole<sup>2</sup> at the Cowehey more than was gaythered 44s. 3d....

*Sum* £54. 12s. 9d....de claro £64. 15s. 3½d.

#### CLV. *Tippling Act.*

Hall Book II, p. 93. [Nov. 19, 1563.] \*Memorandum that at the same comen hall it was inacted by the mayor, burgeses named the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> & the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> in the towne of Leicester, in the name of the wholl body of the same towne of Leicester, that no maner of person or persons whatsoeuer theye be <sup>4</sup>beyng towne dwellers<sup>4</sup>, shall not sytt & typple in any ale howse or common typelyng howse, but if he or they will drynke any ale or bere, beyng townes men, shall send for the same to their one howse or howses, † & also that non shall resort any companye to their howse or howses their to sytt drynkyng or typlyng aboue the space of one hower ‡ vppon pean for euery defalt done to the contrary to forfyt to the vse of the chamber of the towne xiid. & the howseholder that sufferytt anye drynkyng or typlyng in his howse contrary to this order iiis. & iiid. for euery defalt.

Ale tastars & [s]worne men for to make inquire of a typler & common dronkerdes that vse to syt typlyng at the ale howse all daye & all night & their wyfe & chylder starue at home.

[List of ale-tasters—two for each ward.]

Book of Acts, p. 43. *An Act agaynst typlyng and drynkyng in common alehowses & typlyng howses.* Att a comen hall holden at Leicester the XIX daye of November in the sixt yere of the reign of ouer soueraigne lady Elizabeth by the grace of God of England Fraunce and Ireland quene, defender of the fayth etc. in the tyme of the meraltie of Mr Rychard Dave by thassent consent & agrement of the same mayor & his brether called the XXIII & XLVIII in the name of the body of the said towne of Leicester, because that many vnthryfte persons being poore men & hauyng wyfe & children vse

<sup>1</sup> putting in, returning to Chancery. On this annual proceeding see Strype's *Annals* II. i. 309.

<sup>2</sup> pool.

<sup>3</sup> See the enlargement on this draft below.

<sup>4</sup> This phrase added above the line.



commonlye to sytt & typple in alehowses & typlynghowses at suche tyme as theye ought both by Godes lawes & by the lawes [of] this realme to be otherwyse occupied, not only to the great displesure of God but also to the impoueryssyng of them that so abuse their tyme, whylst their poore wyfes, chyldren, and famele<sup>1</sup> almost starue at home for lacke of that that the said euyll disposed people superflewusley spend, <sup>2</sup>it was agreid & inacted<sup>2</sup> that from hensforth no maner of person, being a towne dweller hauyng a howse, shall vse any suche typlyng or drynkyng in any common alehowse or typlynghowse, vppon pean to forfytt for euerye tyme so found typlyng or drynkyng to forfytt to the vse of the chamber of the said towne of Leicester xiiid., and thon<sup>3</sup> or ones, keper or kepèrs of any suche common ale howse or tiplyng howse, shall forfytt to the vse aforesaid for euery tyme that he or they shall suffer any suche typlyng or drynkyng in his or their howse or howses iiis. iiiid. but if any will drynke ale or bear let them send for it home to their one howses & there drynke & typple in dewe order & at conuenyent [tyme]<sup>4</sup> one neighbour with another.

(In the margin are the following notes :—)

This act was renouated at a common hall holden the xvi<sup>th</sup> daye of November in the xiii<sup>th</sup> yere of the reign of quene Elizabeth etc.

This acte was put in force vppon Mighellmas Day in a. r. r. Elizabeth etc. xxvii<sup>o</sup> by the maior & his bretherne & the xlviii<sup>ti</sup> then maior Ric. Davye etc.

#### CLVI. *Gift to the Earl of Huntingdon.*

Hall Book II, p. 94. [Jan. 7, 1564.] Ad communem hallam tentam ibidem vii<sup>o</sup> die Januarii anno sexto Elizabeth regine :—Memorandum that at the same common hall it was agreid by the wholl consent of the same their assembled that there shold be gyuen my lorde of Huntyngdon for his welcom to the towne one yoke of fat oxson of xli. price & a schore of fat wethers price [omitted] to be gyuen to my lorde Hastynges of Loughborowe for their frendship & good wyll towardes this towne of Leicester shewed.

#### CLVII. *Assize of Becc.*

Hall Book II, p. 49. [April 14, 1564.] Not<sup>5</sup> that the xiiii daye of Aprell anno 6<sup>o</sup> Elizabeth regine because that thankes be to God

<sup>1</sup> household.

<sup>2</sup> this phrase added above the line.

<sup>3</sup> the one.

<sup>4</sup> word obliterated.

<sup>5</sup> note.

that malt is of lesse price then of leat<sup>1</sup> it was, therefore ale vnder syve<sup>2</sup> *iiid.* & the tylpeler (*sic*) to sell for *1d.* a quarte & not aboue within the dores, & *iiid.* ob. a galon & not aboue, vppon pean of vis. *viii.* ob. for euery defalt.

#### CLVIII. *Borough Ordinances.*

Book of Acts, p. 43. [June 30, 1564.] *An Act agaynst them that are vysytt with the plague & will not kepe their howses.* Att a common hall holden at Leicester the last daye of June in the sixt yere of the reigne of our soueraigne lady Elizabeth by the grace of God of Englund Fraunce & Ireland quene, defender of the fayth etc., in the tyme of the meraltie of Mr Ryc. Davye by thassent, consent & agrement of the same mayor & his brethren called the *xxiiii<sup>th</sup>* & the *xlvi<sup>th</sup>* in the name of the wholl body of the said towne of Leicester it was agreid & inacted that if any person dwellyng within the lyberties of the said towne of Leicester at any tyme chaunce to be vysyted with the plague<sup>3</sup> presume to goo abrod amongst them that ar clere, within the sp[ace] of tow monithes after that any shall fortune to dye of the plague in his or hur howse, shall forfytt for euerye suche offence fyve pounds of good & lawfull money of Englund to be payed to the vse of the chamber of the said towne of Leicester: and if any person so offendyng be not able to paye the said somme of *vli.* that then he or they shall lose their fredome of the same towne & for cuer after to be banysshed out of the same without any redemption.

*An Act agaynst them that vtter or disclose any secreytes of common hall.* Also it was inacted & agreed at the same common hall that if any man beyng at anye common hall vtter or disclose any secrettes there spoken shall forfytt to the vse of the chamber of the said towne of Leicester *vli.*

*An Act that one of the belles of Seynt Peters church shold be sold to reparation the scholehowse.* Also it was inacted & ag[r]eid at the said hall by the wholl consent there assembled that one of the belles of Seynt Peters church should be sold for to repare the scholehowse.

#### CLIX. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1563—4.] *Rents...Receptes...* the charges<sup>4</sup> of scowringe the dyche at the Cowhey *11s. 10d.*...for 2 buckskynes *3s. 8d.*...ordynalls...for

<sup>1</sup> late.

<sup>2</sup> new ale.

<sup>3</sup> written *glague*.

<sup>4</sup> ms. charges.

Seint Peters 3 quarters<sup>1</sup> 3s. 9d....Shylton for his anuaty<sup>2</sup>...for 1 bell of seint Peters church weyng 1116 pounds £14. 16s. 8d....8 braces weyng 38 poundes and 3 bell clappers of the same Seint Peters church weyng 95 pounds—22s....for 1 bell whele of the same church 2s....one hundreth and a half of lead and the leade asshes 26s. 8d.

*Fynes and forfeitures*...candles...comyng to the hawle without his gowne 4d....gamyng in his house...Anthony Gymson for walkyng in the stretes after the Bobell<sup>3</sup> (2 others)...absentyng hymself from the common hawle (5 others)....

*Sum* £125. 17s. 7½d.

*Gyftes of wyne and other thynges*...clared<sup>4</sup> wyne which was geven to a strange precher 4 Oct....reward to the Erle of Woscyters<sup>5</sup> playars 10 Oct. more then was gatherd...a lame woman which was brought on a barowe to convey her to Stafford 2s....my lord Roberts<sup>6</sup> players 12 Nov. more then was gathered...quenes gester 20 Nov. 3s. 4d....lord of Huntynghon and Mr Cave at the seassyng of the subsidye 26 Nov....10 orenge given to my lord of Huntynghon 7 Dec....6 copple of capons...to my lord of Loughborowe 1 Jan. 9s. 9d....2 sugar loves...16s. 6d....one hundreth of orenge...2s. 8d....players of Coventrey more then was gathered on twelf evin 1s. 8d....lord of Lughborowes jester the next Fryday after 1s....Sir Henry Clyntons berward 9 Jan. 2s....one yocke of oxen...to my lord of Huntynghon 17 Jan. £9. 10s. 0d....20 fatt wethers...to my lord of Loughborowe...£8. 6s. 8d....the Judges...Mr Elmer<sup>7</sup>...Erle of Bedford...4 poundes and a quarter of sugar, 2 ponds of byskets and carrawayes and other cates which Mistres Marys and her sisters had to dryncke with my lady of Huntynghon when she came firste to the towne 13s. 8d....my lord Roberts<sup>6</sup> players 1 July 10s....Sir Owmfrey Ratlyffs players 5 July...Quenes players 2 Aug. 13s. 4d....the fees of 2 bucks geven to Mr Mayor and his brethern by my lord of Huntynghon at Leefeld 6s. 8d...a keper for dressinge the same 1s. 4d....carydge of the same 3s. 4d....2 pound of pepper for the same 7s. 6d....2 gallons and a half of clared wyne at the eattyng of the same 4s. 2d....half a pound of sugar for the same 8d....my lord of Darbys berward 25 Sep. 3s. 4d....£25. 1s. 3d.

<sup>1</sup> Kent for three-quarters of the year.

<sup>2</sup> One who paid yearly for leave to use his occupation.

<sup>3</sup> Curfew, see above p. 74.

<sup>4</sup> claret.

<sup>5</sup> Worcester.

<sup>6</sup> Lord Robert Dudley, created Earl of Leicester Sep. 29, 1564.

<sup>7</sup> John Ayhmer, afterwards bishop of London; formerly tutor of Lady Jane Grey: at this time Archdeacon of Lincoln.

*Fees* etc....a strycke of charcoles for gaynsborowe chamber 5*d*... heyre of a horse to cary Adamas the prysoner to Asheby...2*s*. 2*d*... mete for the same horse...1*s*....goyng to Mr Cave for the sessinge of the subsidie 4*d*...mendynge of the greate mase 33*s*. 4*d*...Ric. Stowghton when his wief and child was buryed<sup>1</sup> 3*s*. 4*d*...to buye meate for theym that kept Stowghtons house<sup>2</sup> 20*d*...Losbyes wief for kepyng Ellyn Mowsholles childe when she was at Stoughtons house 3*s*. 4*d*...Bagnalls wief when she was vyzited with the plagge for the space of 7 weekes 7*s*...Inglysshes wief of Anstye for kepyng Kyrckames house beyng visited with the plague for 10 weeks 16*d*. (and one other)...bryngynge downe a wrytt for the collectorship of the fyfteene 3*s*. 4*d*. £26. 8*s*. 11*d*.

*Reparacions*...lyme for Corpus christie hawle...seeling<sup>3</sup> the bench in the parlour at Corpus christie hawle...a lock to hang upon the chest where the accompts be 3*d*...matt for the bench in the parlour ...mendynge the pynfowld in the markett place...wyckett at the south gate. 2 hoocks to hould the gates oppen...3 women for makinge cleane the ould hawle 1*s*. 1*d*...to scoure the dyche at the Cowheye after the rate of 7*d*. a day apeece...

*For Scynt Peters Church*<sup>4</sup>...workmen...tymber...lathes for lattyce ...makeinge the scowle maisters seate 9*s*....settinge of 24 foote of glasse...4*s*. 3*d*...4 cotters<sup>5</sup> and 4 hoocks...taking down the bells...for the lease of Seint Peters 10*s*....seallyng of the same lease 1*s*.... £19. 7*s*. 6*d*.

*Sum* £85. 8*s*. 11*d*....de claro £40. 15*s*. 4½*d*.

## CLX. *The Subsidy.*

Book of Acts, p. 42. [Nov. 1564.] Here folowith the totall sommes of money gatherid of the XXIII & XLVIII and also the totall sommes lykewyse then gathered of the commons in euery ward within the towne of Leicester in the Countie of Leicester for the seconde or laste moytie of one fyftene & tenth due to be payde vnto the quenes maiestie in the receipt of hir hyghnes Exchequer, before the x<sup>th</sup> daye of November (1564). In the tyme of the meraltie of Simon Nixe, Robt. Breham Esquier Recorder, Ric. Darcker, Tho.

<sup>1</sup> in the plague.

<sup>2</sup> a plague-stricken house.

<sup>3</sup> covering.

<sup>4</sup> made into the free school: the school is usually dated from 1573 because a school house was first built then.

<sup>5</sup> bolts or fastenings; the earliest example known to the *N. E. D.* is of 1649.

Hallam, Will. Reynold and Ric. Davye Justices of the peace and within the liberties of the said towne—

Inprimis of the XXIII *vil.*

Item of the XLVIII *vil.* xviii. *vid.*

Item in the warde of Will. Manby *xvis.*

„ „ Tho. Stanford *xviii.* *iiiiid.*

„ „ Tho. Hallam *xxii.* *viiiid.*

„ „ Rob. Flecher *xvis.*

„ „ Nic. Englyshe *xxvi.* *viiiid.*

„ „ John Tatum *xvis.* *xd.*

„ „ James Clarke *xs.* *xid.*

„ „ Tho. Fowler *xvis.*

„ „ Will. Norys *xvis.* *id.*

„ „ Rob. Wylcocks *xviii.* *iid.*

Summa totalis *xxi.* *iii.*

Hall Book II, p. 105. [June 10, 1565.] Memorandum that the totall sommes of money whiche was gatheryd of the XXIII & XLVIII and also the totall sommes lykwyse whiche was gathered of the commons in euery warde within the towne of Leicester in the countie of Leicester for the seconde or last moytie of one fiftene & tenth due to be paide vnto the quenes maiesties vse in her receipte of thexchequier, before [Nov. 10, 1564] in the tyme of the meraltie of Mr Symon Nixe, Mr Rob. Breham Esquier recorder (and four named as above) justices of the peace within the liberties of the said towne, which said totall somes are registered into the towne Booke of Actes the daye and yeare last aforsaid, by the comandemente of the said Mr maior & his brethren, whiche Booke of Actes is of a large volum, and coueryd with red lether and so the same Booke is to be knowne.

#### CLXI. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1564—5.] *Rents...Recepts...*for the bell wheles of sey(n)t Peters 12s....ordynals...kepyng unlawfull games...playing at unlawfull games...blodeshed...forfytte lether...absent of a markytt daye when he shold have wetyd of Mr Mayor thorow the markytt 6*d.* (and 3 others)... Mr Woodall the quenes receuer towards the meaintenance of the free schole £10<sup>1</sup>...the fears...breakyng thassye of ale 3*s.* 4*d.*...tole of horses 8*s.*...

*Sum* £88. 1*s.* 0½*d.*

<sup>1</sup> An item regularly mentioned from this year on.

*Gyftes of wyne*...lord of Loughborowe...byskytts and caraweys...  
*bunnes*...4*d.*...an ounce of gynger 4*d.*...Erle of Shroysburye...lord of  
 Huntyngdons bearward more then was gaythered 5*s.*...Mr Geo.  
 Hastings...a bottell that was broken 6*d.*...my lord Scropes plears  
 more then was gaytheryd...my lord Hundons<sup>1</sup> plears...5*s.*...Mr  
 Woodall<sup>2</sup> at the Starre...Mr Dey<sup>3</sup> at the Angell...another precher at  
 the Angell.. clarke of the markytt...£4. 12*s.* 4*d.*

*Fees* etc....to the ussher for his wages £5. 13*s.* 4*d.*<sup>4</sup>...etyng of the  
 venyson that my lorde of Huntyngdon gave more then was gaytheryd  
 22*s.*...Mr Whithear a prechare at Mr Mayors comaundement 15*s.*...  
 Mr Hibbatts<sup>5</sup> plears more then was gaytheryd 2*s.* 6*d.*...Mr Saunders  
 for his counsell 10*s.*...Mr Recorder for his counsell at thassy 10*s.*...  
 clerke of the markytt 10*s.*...turves to the buttes...for puttyng in the  
 inquyscions for inquirye of eatyng of flesshe into the Chauncerye  
 2*s.*...for the sartificat for rat of servaunts wages into the Chauncerye<sup>6</sup>  
 2*s.* 4*d.*...the Mears clerke uppon a byll of reconyng 3*s.*...to Mr Flechar  
 for rent of seynt Peters 5*s.*...to straunge weattes and other mynstrells  
 at the Mayors dinner 6*s.* 8*d.*...to the chyl dren that played under  
 Mr Pott<sup>7</sup> 5*s.*...quenes iester 3*s.* 4*d.*...£51. 12*s.* 11*d.*

*Reparacions*...caryng a dore from the old hall to the new hall...  
 2 poor men for caryng a lame (sic) to Ay(l)ston 8*d.*...the stockes at  
 Senvye crosse 4*d.*...the wardyns of the taylours 1*s.* 8*d.*...£9. 1*s.* 4*d.*

*Sum* £66. 19*s.* 11*d.*...de claro £21. 1*s.* 1½*d.*

## CLXII. *Election of Assessors of Prices of Food.*

Hall Book II, p. 111. [Nov. 16, 1565.] Memorandum that at  
 this common hall by assent consent and agrement of the same,  
 Mr John Eyryke & Mr Tho. Hallam were elect & chosyn to be  
 assysars & setters of prices of victuall with Mr Mayor for the present  
 yere & there sworne to the same.

<sup>1</sup> Sic for Hunsdon's.

<sup>2</sup> Receiver.

<sup>3</sup> preacher.

<sup>4</sup> See above p. 114, note 7.

<sup>5</sup> ?

<sup>6</sup> The making of the certificate regulating the wages of servants (and also artificers and labourers) is noted every year from this time. Under the act of 5 Eliz. 4, c. 12, the justices determined the rate of wages, and their assessment was returned to Chancery. Thereupon the Council authorized the assessment by proclamation. On the administration of the statute see Miss McArthur's *Regulation of Wages* in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* xv. p. 445. The contention of her paper is borne out by the Leicester Chamberlains' accounts. None of the assessments has been found.

<sup>7</sup> Probably the grammar-school-master, as Kelly suggests, *Notices*, p. 81.

CLXIII. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1565—6.] *Rents*...(Chambers over the gates)...Rent of the vicarege and church yeard of St Peters.

*Recepts*...for the bells wayinge 2112*li.* at 30*s.* the hundreth £ 31. 12*s.* ...of Mr Wodall the Quenes receyvor towarde the mayntenaunce of the frescoole £ 5....Sir Rauff Rowlatt for the mayntenaunce of the same frescole £ 3. 6*s.* 8*d.*<sup>1</sup>...for the register booke of horses...tayllors for the upsettyng<sup>2</sup> of Rob. By the way 18*s.* 4*d.*...ordynalls...at a sessemente for the peamente of money to Maister Manbye<sup>3</sup> £ 7. 9*s.* 4*d.* ...bakers for the upsettyng of R. S. 20*s.*

*Fynes*...for gammyng (and 4 others)...affray (3)...absentinge himself from the common hawle...makynge a defawlte in his strycke 2*s.*...lackynge weighte in his candells 1*s.*

*Summa* £ 120. 5*s.* 1½*d.*

*Cheif rents*...Vicar of saint Margarets parishe for Sir Ric. Insley's obite<sup>4</sup> 16*d.*

*Gyftes of wyne*...my ladye of Huntynghon 18 Nov. when Mistres Marys<sup>5</sup> and her sisters dyd goe to her...Mr Woolock the prehour 1 Dec....lord Clyntons berwards more then was gathered 3*s.* 4*d.*...Mr Raven at the sygne of the Angell 8*d.*...Erle of Huntynghons berwards more then was gathered 3*s.* 6*d.*...Erle of Shrowesburyes berwarde more then was gathered 5*s.* 6*d.*...Erle of Warwycke...a yocke of oxen given to the Erle of Huntynghon £ 10....Mr Elmer<sup>6</sup>...Lord Hastings of Lughboroughe...rewarde to the quenes gester 3*s.* 4*d.*...Countes...at Lubsthorpp 6 Feb....a lambe...half a pounce of fyne bisketts...10*d.*...sacke given to one of the Erle of Huntynghons bretharne 1*s.*...Erle of Huntingtons lackys when he broughte a letter to Mr Mayor 2*s.*...lorde Hastings of Lughboroughs players more then was gathered 4*s.*...the quenes berwarde more (etc.) 4*s.* 8*d.*...quenes players more (etc.) 2*s.*...Erle of Worcesters players more (etc.) 3*s.* 10*d.*...too of the Erle of Huntingtons bretherne 1*s.* 8*d.*...Mr Turpyn then the highe shreive...Mr Elmer at the visitacion...Sir Ambros Cave at the castell...Mr Woodall at the signe of the Starr...Erle of Huntynghon when he went to meete the quenes maiestie in the progrese tyme...£ 15. 17*s.* 11*d.*

<sup>1</sup> Hereafter these two freeschool items appear regularly among the receipts.

<sup>2</sup> Setting up in his occupation.

<sup>3</sup> See above pp. 107—8.

<sup>4</sup> The last mention of Ilkesley's obit.

<sup>5</sup> Mayoress.

<sup>6</sup> See note 7 above, p. 111.

*Fees*....scoolemaisters of the free scoole<sup>1</sup> £12. 16s. 8d....answeringe a suppena for the towne hawle 6s. 8d....arrerages of the same hawle... cloth for W. Smithe the bydell...his wages 20s....turves to the buttes ...returnynge 2 wryttes before my lorde keper...settinge 2 trees at Weston whiche were in controvercye to take possession...serchyng of Ellyn Tymes wyll<sup>2</sup> 1s....charges in the sewte for the sheppens and other charges £15...

*Reparacions*...theles<sup>3</sup> for the bridge in Humberstone gate with sleperes...stone to the Barell Crosse...morter, stone and workeman-shipp to amende aboute the elme tree...

*Summa* £84. 7s. 11d.

*Summa de claro* £35. 17s. 2½d.

#### CLXIV. *The Subsidy.*

Book of Acts, p. 46, and Hall Book II, p. 118. [Nov. 22, 1566.] Here folowith the totall somes of money gathe[r]yd in euery warde within the towne of Leicester in the countie of Leicester as well of the XXIII & XLVIII as also of the commons in the same, for the first moytie of one subsidie due to be paid vnto the Quenes maiesties vse in her receipte of the Exchequer before the first daye of Aprill (1566) (etc.).

Of the XXIII iii*li*.

Of the XLVIII iii*li*.

In primis in the warde of Will. Beryge xliiii*s*.

" " " Will. Manbie lix*s*. viii*d*.

" " " James Clarke xiii*s*.

" " " Simon Nixe xxxiii*s*.

" " " Will. Noris xliiii*s*.

" " " Rob. Flecher xxxiii*js*.

" " " Nic. Englyshe xv*s*.

" " " Thos. Hallam iii*li*. xs. viii*d*.

" " " Tho. Fowler li*s*.

" " " Tho. Stanford xli*s*.

*Summa totalis* xx*li*. iii*s*. iiiii*d*.

<sup>1</sup> Hereafter the salary of the usher and underusher is annually noted.

<sup>2</sup> She bequeathed money for the repair of highways, see CLXXXIII. below.

<sup>3</sup> deals.



CLXV. *Borough Ordinances.*

Hall Book II, p. 116. [Nov. 22, 1566.] Memorandum that at the common haule last within written, was made and ordeyned by the within named Mr John Tatum maior & his brethren callyd the XXIII & the XLVIII, at the seid common [hall] then & there assembled, in the name of the whole bodye of the towne of Leicester, one act named An Act agaynest Waystyng of the towne Stocke, and also one other act apoyntyng the tymes for the Lecture to be redd, which two seuerall Actes are registerid into the towne Booke of Actes the daye and yere last within written by the commaundement of the said maister maior & his brethren, whiche Booke of Actes is of lardge volum and coueryd with red lether and so the same booke is to be knowne.

Book of Acts, p. 44. *An Act agaynst waystyng of the towne stock*<sup>1</sup>. <sup>2</sup>Understandyng that whereas before thys tyme the towne stock hath bene & is moche dekeid by reason of gevinge, caryinge & bestowinge of greate gyftes & as well into the cuntrey as into the towne to noble men and women, & also to other that haue sundrye tymes resorted to the said town of Leicester, & also at the bankets of venyson, of gyftes and rewardes geven to players, musiciens, iesters, noblemens bere-wardes, & suche lyke charges, and ys lyke daylye more & more to be dekeyd except reformation herof be spedely hadd: <sup>3</sup>Therefore it is inacted, determynd, concluded, & fullye agreyde at & by all the aforesaid assembled & at the same comon haule, that frome & after the said daye there shal be no suche greate allowance paide deliueyrd or alowed out of the towne stock for any suche expenses that after the said comon hawle shall happen; but that the spenders therof, as at the banketts of venyson, playes, beare baytyngs, & suche lyke, euery one of the maiores brethren & of the XLVIII beinge requyred or havinge sommons by the comaundement of Mr Maior for the tyme beinge to be there, shall beare euery one of theym his and their porcion; and also that there shal be no maner of other gyfte geven to any noble man or woman or to any other person or persons that shal be taken or borne of the towne stock, except it be done by the consent of maister maior for the tyme beinge, with foure or fyve of the awncientes of his brethren & as manye

<sup>1</sup> Quoted in Kelly's *Notices* pp. 197—9.

<sup>2</sup> Prefaced by the usual preamble.

<sup>3</sup> In the margin is the note: Here the charges of Banketyng and such lyke shal be borne by the spenders therof.

of the awncientes of the XLVIII: 'except fyve shillynges and vnder or the value therof, whiche shall or may be bestowed by the comandement of Mr maior onely, for the tyme beyng for the worshipp of the said towne of Leicester, when & as ofte as occasion shall move hym. And this act for euer to contynewe within the said towne of Leicester for the good supportacion and mayntenaunce of the said towne.

Book of Acts, p. 45. *An Acte appoyntyng the tymes for the lecture to be redd.* At and by the same com[m]on hawle within wrytton, it is further inacted determyned & fully agreid at & by the within named assembled & at the same comon hawle that frome and after the said daye by the grace of God, the lecture vpon Wednesdaye & Frydaye in euerye weeke shall begyn at sevon of the clocke in the fore none & ende at eighte of the clock in the same fore none accordynge to a decree made by the advyce & consent of the right honorable Henry, Earle of Huntynghdon, in the tyme of the meraltie of Mr Tho. Fowler.

*An act that no forreners shall dwell in anye tenement within the towne of Leicester before they be first examined.* At and by the last common haule aforsaid it is further inacted, concluded, establyshed & fully agreide at & by the aforsaid there assembled & at the same common haule that frome & after the daye of the same common haule no maner of person or persons havinge landes tenementes or hereditamentes within the towne of Leicester or the suburbes of the same, shall take vpon hym or theym to retayne or put into any of there howses or tenementes within the franchizes of the same toune any maner of person or persons to be theire tennante, before he or they haue presented suche forren person & persons before Mr Maior for the tyme being & the alderman of the ward where any suche person or persons shall inhabyte, to be examyned from whence he comyth & what honest behavior suche forren person or persons be of vppon peyne of vis. viiij*d.* for euery defalt to be paid by the owners of the howses<sup>2</sup>.

Ibid. and Hall Book II, p. 119. [Feb. 21, 1567.] *An Act appoyntyng an order for the standyng of the buchens in the markett place.*

<sup>3</sup>It is inacted, determyned and fully agreid at & by the said assembled & at the same comon hawle, that frome and after the daye of the said comon haule, there shall no butcher, neyther of the towne nor of

<sup>1</sup> A note is set in the margin: Here may be bestowed at anye one tyme to the value of fyve shillynges or vnder by the commandemente of Mr Maior.

<sup>2</sup> The penalty has been added in another hand.

<sup>3</sup> The usual preamble precedes.

the cuntrey, stand on the east syde of the gutter or chanell that lyeth from the ende of Gaynseborowe towarde the east gate, but to stande in the shambles appoynted for the Saterdaies, and on the north syde of the said gutter or chanell, & on the north syd of the said Gaynesborowe towarde the east ende of the said shambles, and also alonge, without, & by, the north syde of the same shambles, & toward the west ende of the west ende, and at the west ende of the same shambles—upon payne of euerye person & persons that make default to the contrarye and for euerye tyme so founde & proved to forfeit & paye to the vse of the chamber of the said towne of Leicester the sum of iiis. iiijd.

Book of Acts, p. 46, Hall Book II, p. 120. [July 11, 1567.] *An Act for the confirmacion of the ordinall of Tanners within the towne of Leicester.* <sup>1</sup>It is inacted determined & fully agreyd at & by all the moste parte of the same common haule that frome & after the daye of the said comon haule, the Ordinall of the occupacion of Tanners within the towne of Leicester shall for euer continewe in full force & effect within the said towne, and all thynges in the same Ordinall is confirmed & admitted so that there be nothyng therein contayned that shal be preiudiciall to any of the quenes maiesties lawes or statutes. Stewardes & wardyns for the yere folowinge elected by the maisters of the said occupacion Will. Norrys, Will. Beryge & George Tat[um].

#### CLXVI. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1566—7.] *Rents...Receipts...*for 16 souldiour cotes 22s. 8d....  
ordinals...register booke of horsse 4s....fares arrerages 8s....

*Fynes* (etc.)...walking in the streets at after neene of the clock at nyght 1s. (& 4 others)...of a strange tanner for byinge by yddes<sup>2</sup> contrary to the ordinall of tanners 2s. 6d....

*Summa totalis recepti.* £102. 13s. 8d.

*Gyftes of wyne*...Mr Samson the preacher 1 Oct....two straungers in Gaynsborowe chamber at the comaundement of Mr Maire Oct. 1. whiche came to inquire yf the Register Booke of lether and other thinges were duly kept and observed 20s....the lord Cromwells gentylmen 22 Oct....Mr Whyttyng 15 Nov....George Warde the Erle of Huntynghams berewarde at Mr Maior comaundement more

<sup>1</sup> The usual preamble, with a note of the presence of the Recorder, Robert Braham.

<sup>2</sup> hides.

then was gatheryd 3s. 8d....geven to the quenes gester whose name is Lockwood 3s. 4d....Mr Bryan Cave at the Newark 2 Jan....Lord Hastings of Loughborowe one swann the pryce 6s....the preacher of Oxford 10 Jan....one of the quenes purcevaunts...Mr Dannett...Dr Cave 28 Jan. when he sate in commission for the subsidie...to the players of Coventrie 31 Jan. more (etc.) 4s....the generall clark of the Marckett 12 Feb. 10s....Mr Caves sonn for wrytinge a draught of an indenture for the collector 1s....Sir John Beryns<sup>1</sup> players more than was gathered 7 March...Lord Marques of Northampton 19 March...Mr Purife & Mr Saunders...Mr Gylbey...Mistres Merys of Coventrie 20 April...in the Newark...Mr Tymes the preacher...Mr Doctor Whytgyft<sup>2</sup> & other of Cambridge 15 June...the Erle of Leicesters musicians 14 June...Erle of Bedforths chaplyn a preacher 4 July...Sir Thos. Knevelles<sup>3</sup> musycians 8 Julye...one Mr Key a preacher...Judges...bere for theym 6d....Mr Kynge the preacher...lorde of Hunsdones musicians 12 Aug....Mr Samson the preacher.

*Fees.* Mayor...Recorder...Thos. Bruster<sup>4</sup>...6s. 8d....the scoole-maisters for their waiges £13. 6s. 8d....the Neyterd, the swinnerd<sup>5</sup>, for the hervest season 2d....mendinge of the weits collors & for cariage & recariage of theym frome London 6s. 8d....for a statut booke 1s....dressinge of five harnes<sup>6</sup> 11s. ..16 harnes...2 sparres to hange the same harnes upon 4d....corde to tye the same 2d....a procees against Mr Caton 1s....cariage of the indenture with the scedull & obligacion for the first peament of the subcedie to London 2s....Maiors clarcke for waxe, parchment & wrytinge of two inquisicions concernyng the restreynt for eatinge of flesshe in Lent & also for one certificatt for the rates of servaunts wages certified into the courte of Chancerie 3s....3 dossen of poynts<sup>7</sup> for the harnes 6d....Knytches children for the housse of Will. Durand whiche was receyved<sup>8</sup> 2 yeres past 24s....rent of saint Peters parishe 5s.—£45. 9s. 10d.

*Reparacions*...mendinge the hangyngs in the parlour 3d....benching in the hawle...one hundreth of eightpeny naylls for the same worke 8d....for the scaffold of the same haule 6s....a wyndow in Seint Peters church 1d....a lock in Saint Peters church 3d....stockes at Senvye Crosse 2d....in the Saturdaye marckett...at the hyghe Crosse...reparinge of the oulde hawle caulled the Maiors haule...lyme for the

<sup>1</sup> Sir John Byron, see *Nott. Records* iv. p. 132.

<sup>2</sup> Afterwards archbishop of Canterbury: at this time a Cambridge professor of divinity.

<sup>3</sup> Neville?

<sup>4</sup> Successor to F. Moss as Clerk of the Justices.

<sup>5</sup> neat herd and swine herd.

<sup>6</sup> harness, town's equipment.

<sup>7</sup> See note 1, p. 80.

<sup>8</sup> A plague-stricken house.

rughe castinge of the East gates & the North gates & also for Senvye Crosse 18s. 8d....the curriar in Parchement Lane for house rounge for the said lyme to lye in 8d....cockstole<sup>1</sup>...pynns with cotters<sup>2</sup> for the same...2 longe poles for the greece<sup>3</sup> in the north gate...the steps at the greece...a dore cheeke...for the greece dore...peyre of gymalls<sup>4</sup> for the same dore...Agnes Barcker for clensing under the greece 1d. ...reperacion over the greece at East gates...4 cresses<sup>5</sup> for the East gate 8d....hard lath<sup>6</sup>...gyldyng the quenes armes over the North gates 6s. 8d....eves bord over the same...at roogh castinge the same armes...pavinge at the North gates at Saint Sondaies Brydge & at the poyntyng of Senvye Crosse 9s....worcke at the Antelopp for pavinge and layinge of the same brydge 9s....tymber for the same ...pavinge stones...stones upon the Cornewaule...£7. 6s. 5½d.

*Summa soluta* & dekeyd £60. 16s. 4½d.

*Summa de claro* £41. 17s. 3½d.

#### CLXVII. *Act for Relief of the Poore.*

Book of Acts, p. 48, Hall Book II, p. 128<sup>7</sup>. [March 12, 1568.]  
*An act for the vniuersall releffe of the poore & impotent people inhabitinge within the towne of Leicester ouer and aboute the collection within the same towne by vertue of the quenes maiesties statutes.* <sup>8</sup>Firste, that frome and after the feast of the Annunciacion of our Lady Saynt Mary the Virgin next comynge after the date aforesaid in euery parishe within the same towne shal be appoynted one substanciall collector to receyve suche sumes of money and contribucion as shall come to their handes and receipt by the meanes hereafter folowinge, towardes the vniuersall releffe of the poore and impotent people inhabitynge within the said towne of Leicester, ouer and aboute the collection within the same towne by vertue of the Quenes maiesties statutes, that is to say, euery one of the companye of the XXIIII shall paye at euery tyme of his weddyng to the collector of the parishe where he inhabiteth, to the vse of the said poore iis. viii<sup>d</sup>. And euery one of the company of the XLVIII shall paye at euery tyme of his weddyng xvi<sup>d</sup>. and euery commoner of the best sorte within the said toune shall paye at euery tyme of his weddyng viii<sup>d</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> cucking-stool.

<sup>2</sup> bolts, see note 5, p. 112.

<sup>3</sup> steps, or place so called because of the existence of steps.

<sup>4</sup> hinges.

<sup>5</sup> crests, crest-tiles.

<sup>6</sup> heart-lath.

<sup>7</sup> A note of the act "which is registerid into the towne book of actes." As entered in the Hall Book the date is not clear. Cf. Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 255.

<sup>8</sup> Usual preamble.

and euery second commoner shall paye at euery tyme of his weddyngge *iiiiid.* And it is also ordeyned for the better releffe of the said poore people, and for the eschuyng of the superfluows charge and excesse of the inhabitantes of the said towne of Leicester that there shal be no feastes made at any churchings within the said towne savinge only one compotent messe of meate provided for gosseps and mydwyves. And for & in consideracion therof it is ordeyned and agreyd that euery one of the said *XXIIII* shall paye at euery churchinge of his wyffe, to the collector of the parishe where he inhabiteth, to the vse of the said poore people of the towne of Leicester *iis. viiiid.* And euery one of the *XLVIII* shall paye at euery churching of his wyffe *xvid.* and euery commoner of the best sorte within the said towne shall paye at euery churchinge of his wyffe *viiiid.* and euery second commoner shall paye at euery churchinge of his wyffe *iiiiid.*

(p. 49.) And also at euery weddyng and churchinge which shall happen to be within the same towne, the parson, vicar, minister, or clarcke shall receyve the same summes of money accordingly and deliuer the same to the collector of the parishe where such weddyng and churchinge shall happen to be by a bill indented. And further it is ordeyned and agreyd at the said comon haule that frome & after the said feast of the Annunciacion of Our Lady Saynt Mary the Virgin, one poore man whiche shal be appareled with a blacke gowne and a badge vpon his sleve, shalbe appoynted to go with a boxe locked fast to euery ine and other places within the said towne of Leicester where st[r]aungers do resorte to aske of theym their charitable almes towardes the vniuersall releffe of the poore people within the said towne, of the whiche boxe Mr maior for the tyme beyng or one of the cheyffe of the *XXIIII* shall kepe the key and shall receyve weekly of the said poore man suche [summe] of money as he fyndeth in the same boxe, and the said Mr maior or the receyvor of the said money, by the consent of the said Mr Maior for the tyme beyng, with the consent of thre or foure of the most auncientes of the *XXIIII* shall distribute or cause the same to be distributed to the poore and impotent persons inhabetyng within the said towne, as often and when as occasion shall serve, at the discrecion of the said Mr Maior and his brethren.

And further it is agreyde at the same common haule that euery of the said seuerall collectors of the aforsaid weddynges & churchynges shall therof make accompte quarterlye and openly in the church or some other convenient place appoynted, to Mr Maior for the tyme beinge, in the presence of so manye of the *XXIIII* & *XLVIII* as wilbe

there of all the receypte concernynge the same duryng the tyme that they and eury of theym haue beyne in the said office, and then the said maister maior for the tyme beinge with the consent of three or foure of the cheffest of the XXIII shall distribute or cause the same to be distributed to the poore and impotent persons inhabitinge within the said towne as farr as all the said receyptes or summes of money will extende. And if then any ouerplus therof happen to remayne after any suche distribucion, then the same to be kept in the chamber of the said towne of Leicester by it selfe to the vse of the poore, and the same to be distributed vnto them as occasion shall serve, at the discrecion of the said Mr maior for the tyme beinge and his brethren as often and when as nede shall require. And this act for euer to continewe within the said towne of Leicester for the uniuersall relef of the poore and impotent people inhabitynge within the said towne.

CLXVIII. *The Pindership.*

Hall Book II, p. 127. [April 1, 1568.] Memorandum that the first day of Aprill in the tenth yeare of the reigne of our soueraign lady quene Elizabeth, James Darbyshire of the towne of Leicester, lawnteran<sup>1</sup> maker, came before Will. Norys maior of the said towne of Leicester and dyd geve his full consent and good wyll to depart frome the pyndershipp within the said towne of Leicester immediatly. Whereupon the said maior comaunded Will. Ludnaham and Denys Symson, chamberlyns of the said towne, to paye forthwith vnto the said James Darbyshire the summe of xiiis. iiid. for his waiges due at his said departinge.

CLXIX. *Lottery Act.*

Book of Acts, p. 57. [Aug. 11, 1568.] *An Act concernynge the generall lotterye*<sup>2</sup>. <sup>3</sup>It is inacted determined and fully agreyde in maner and forme folowyng, that is to saye, that there shalbe aduentered and put into the Generall Lotterye tene lottes, that is to saye, fyve poundes furth of the stocke of the said towne of Leicester, the same to be payde and deliueyd vnto the generall

<sup>1</sup> lantern.

<sup>2</sup> In Hall Book II, p. 130, there is a note of its entry in the Book of Acts.

<sup>3</sup> Usual preamble.

collector of the said lotterye within the countie of Leicester by the handes of Will. Ludnaham and Denys Symson, chamberlyns of the said towne of Leicester for the tyme beinge, and it is also agreyde and fully determined, that if all or any of the said lottes shall happen to be returned to the said towne agayne, with any gayne or advantage, that then the same shall wholly be putt into the stocke of the said towne of Leicester towards the agmentynge and encreasinge of the same stocke and there to be vsed and imployed as the residue or other parte of the stocke of the said towne. And it is further condissended and agreyde at and by the said comon haule that if all the value of the said tene lottes or any parte or parcell therof shall happen to be lost in the said adventure, that then the said companyes of XXIII & XLVIII at their proper costes and charges shall make the same<sup>1</sup> agayne, towards the stocke of the said towne euery one as his or their porcion or porcions shall amounte vnto, the one half therof to be collected and gathered of the said companye of the XXIII and the other half therof lykewyse to be collected and gathered of the said companye of the XLVIII, to the intent that the stocke of the said towne of Leicester shall not be deminished by any menes of the aforsaid adventure, and the collection thereof to be made and done by the chamberlyns of the said towne of Leicester for the tyme beinge, within one whole yeare next ensuyng the said adventure by the comaundement of Mr maior for the tyme beyng.

#### CLXX. *Oaths of Borough Officers.*

Hall Book II, p. 144<sup>2</sup>. [Sep. 21, 1568.] *Othe of the Mayores brether*, as above p. 101, with this addition in another hand—"And the secrittis and counsell of the boddie pollitique of the corporacion of this towne I shall not disclose, nor reveale to the hurtte or preiudyce of the same to my knowledge."

(Oath of the Chapman's Gild, the Chamberlains, Constables and Freborowes, Recorder (with the same addition as above), of the Mayor's officers, clerk and sergeant, the oath of occupations, of fish- and flesh-sayers, and leather-sayers<sup>3</sup> (searchers into all manner of wares made of leather throughout, or of wares made of leather

<sup>1</sup> "good" is needed.

<sup>2</sup> The page opening the year (p. 141) is elaborately decorated with pen and ink scrolls.

<sup>3</sup> Against one form of the oath (cf. II. 323) is a note "this othe is not alowed—loke further," and a similar form is supplied with the title as printed above in brackets.



according to the statute in that case made and provided). The oath of the Mayor for Orphans follows (p. 156) struck through. It is given below, 1572.)

Thus endith the Othes as they are conteyned & writton in the Towne Booke of Recordes comonly called the Locke Booke. Whereunto is newly added & ordeyned tow other othes viz. one for the Serchers and sayers of lether, & another for orphantes, which othe is to be ministered to the maior for the tyme beyng.

CLXXI. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1567—8.] *Rents...Receipts...Fynes...*not attendynge uppon Mr Maior throughe the markt place (several)...J. M. and an northeron man for makynge a fraye within the liberties of the towne 1s. 10d....comyng to the hall without his gowne contrary to an act of the towne ...unlawfull gammyng....

*Summa totalis* £110. 5s. 0d.

...*Gyftes of wyne* (etc....). Sir Geo. Turpyn Knight<sup>1</sup> and to the residue of the quenes majesties commissioners of the subsodie when they were about the same at the towne haule...wyne and sugar...a yocke of oxen geven to the right honorable Erle of Huntynghton price £8...Turpyn...one sugar loffe, one bagge of almonds, with fyggs and reysyngs price 24s....a precher of Oxford...in reward to the players of Hull more (etc.) 12 Sep. 4s....turves...Mr Maior at his comyng home from London immediatly after his eleccion price 14d. ...in rewarde to one of Sir G. Turpyns men in whose behalfe the same Sir G. T. dyd wryte his letters to the towne of Leicester 20s....

*Fees* (etc.)...Collectors of the generall lotterye<sup>2</sup> 13 Sep....for keypyng the lanes 13s. 4d....towne harnes...surveyinge the towne lands in Wheston 22 Oct. 3s. 4d....a lether bagge for the brede weights and the ballance 7d....8 dossen of poyntes<sup>3</sup>...1s. 4d.

*Reparacions*...40 gutter sclates 6d.

*Summa* £70. 11s. 3½d....de claro £39. 13s. 8½d.

CLXXII. *Borough Ordinances.*

Book of Acts, p. 53. Hall Book II, p. 165. [March 4, 1569.] *An Acte for the keypyng of fower post horses*<sup>4</sup>. <sup>5</sup>It is inacted deter-

<sup>1</sup> Sheriff.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 123.

<sup>3</sup> See p. 80, note 1.

<sup>4</sup> From this point the act recurs annually, in terms more or less elaborate.

<sup>5</sup> Usual preamble.

myned & fully agreyed & establyshed, that fowre sufficient & hable post horses shalbe kept & maynteyned within the liberties of the same towne at the proper costes and charges of the inhabitors thereof, to serve for the said towne in the quenes maiesties affayres when cause or occacion shall require, frome the feaste of Phillipp and Jacob thappostolles next ensuyng the date heareof; vnto the ende and full terme of one whole yeare then next and immediatly folowyng and fully to be complete and endyd, and that the partie or parties that shalbe appoynted by the said Mr Maior and his brethren to haue the orderynge and kepyng of the same post horses, shalbe alowed & presently paide towards the fyndyng & kepyng of euery one of the same horses xxviis. viiij*d*. by the handes of the chamberlyns of the same towne for the tyme beyng whiche shalbe collected and gathered by the said chamberlyns of the said Mr Maior and his brethren callyd the xxiiii and the xlviii, and also of the commoners inhabytinge within the liberties of the same towne ratably, and as the same shalbe sessid & taxed at & by the discrecion of the said Mr Maior and his brethren, and that within sixe weekes next after the daye of the date of the said comon haule.

Ibid. and Hall Book II, p. 166. *An Act for the kepyng of Wheston Courte at any tyme in the yere.* At and by the common haule last aboue writton, it is further inacted determyned and fully agreyed establyshed and confirmed by the aboue named Mr Maior and his brethren named the xxiiii and the xlviii then and there assembled, for & in the name of the whole bodye of the corporacion of the towne of Leicester, that frome and after the daye of the date of the said common haule it shall and may be lawfull to & for the maior for the tyme beyng to appoynt the Courte of Wheston to be kept at or in any tyme of the yeare which he shall thyncke best, and also that it shall & maye be lawfull to & for the said maior for the tyme beyng either to be at the kepyng of the same courte hymself or with other of his brethren or els to sende one of his Chamberlyns & his stewarde, for to kepe the same at his election: Any act ordinaunces or other restrayntes heretofore made or ordeyned by force of any common haule heretofore houlden within the liberties of the said towne of Leicester to the contrary in anywyse notwithstandinge.

Hall Book II, p. 167. [Aug. 26, 1569.] *For buying Pikese*<sup>1</sup>.  
<sup>2</sup>Memorandum. At the same common haule it is ordeyned and agreyed by the aboue named Will. Manbey, maior, & his brethren callyd the xxiiii & the xlviii then and there assembled for & in the

<sup>1</sup> Pikes.

<sup>2</sup> A Latin preamble gives the date.

name of the whole body of the Corporacion of the towne of Leicester, that a generall leyre or collection shalbe hade and made throughe out the whole liberties of the said towne of Leicester, for the bying and provydyng of tenne morres<sup>1</sup> pyckes and tenne newe corselettes furnished, to be and remayne in the chamber or tresure housse of the said towne of Leicester, to serve the Quenes maiestie in her affayres of warr, if cause or occasion shall happen to require.

CLXXIII. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1568—9.] (Bad state)...Receyved of the companyes of the XXIII and XLVIII for the maynteynyng of three able posthorses £4... bying of the towne harnes £12....comoners of the towne towards the bying...£5. 15s. 0d....Steward of the showmakers for the uppsetting of T. S. 1s. 8d....

*Fynes*...for breakyng the heade of Anthony Dugdales wyffe 1s.... typplyng without lawfull allowance...unlawfull games...for denyng to bake breade for the comon people 20s....Wardyns of the taylers for one of the companie that made defalte 6d....

*Summa totalis* £126. 17s. 11d.

...*Gyftes*...players of Coventrey more (etc.)...to the oulde Countes of Huntynghdon when mistres Maryes<sup>2</sup> and her systers went unto her for these thynges folowyng, that is to saye one loffe of sugar weinge syxe pounds and three quarters after the rate of foureteene pence a pounce, price 7s. 10½d....one boxe of bysketts...1s. 4d....a boxe of fyne carrawayes...1s. 4d....a potell of muscadyne...1s. 4d....in rewarde to one Lockwoode the quenes jester 3s. 4d....a pursivant whiche broughte downe a commission and proclamacions for the takyng of muster 6s. 8d....Sir Anthony Sturleys<sup>3</sup> players more (etc.) 2s. 11d.... generall clarcke of the markett...Lorde Hastyngs of Loughborowe... besshoppe of Lyncolne...a scottysse beshoppe at the Angell whiche rode to the Courte in poste...a master of arte whiche came from Northampton...playe(r)s of Hull...marques of Northampton...players of Sir John Beryn Knyghte...a sercher of clothe...one Mr Smiths players more (etc.).

*Fees*...a wrytinge booke for the common haule...a carte to cary a woman throughe the marckett place...for kyllyng 9 mowld wartes<sup>4</sup> and for spreadyng the mowle hylles in the Cowe heye 1s. 2d....to

<sup>1</sup> Large pikes, see Halliwell's *Glossary*.

<sup>3</sup> =Strelley (of Strelley, Notts.).

<sup>2</sup> Mayoress.

<sup>4</sup> Moles, mowdywarps.

the under sheriffe for certifyinge the certificatt concernynge vacabonds 2s...tene corsletts and tene pycks furnisshed...£16. 12s. 10d... gudyngc certain soldiours frome the towne...to Tudbarye<sup>1</sup> 7s. 6d... 2 irne hoopes and 2 irne pykes for the chamberlyns stavs...collorynge the same staves...the goulde smith for garnysing the sylver typps of the same staves 15s. 10d.

*Reparacions*...to repayre the scoole housse at Saynt Peters churchc ...makyngc upp the particion of the same...41 foote of lattys for the same scoole housse wyndowes 13s. 4d...larder housse dore at the towne haule...a wyndowe in the scolemaister chamber at the towne haule...5 foote of glasse for the same...2s. 1d...wyndowe at the oulde maiors haule...2 quarters<sup>2</sup> of 6 foote longe for the chamber where in the armour ys at the towne haule...a dubble quarter of 12 foote longe for the towne harnes 9d...playster to repaire the armerye chamber...also at Gaynsborowe chamber...a woman for caryngc in the same playster 2d...wardyns of Saynt Martins parisshe for 2 peces of tymber...to burne the playster...the particion in the cole housse... torchinge of the cole housse...dressinge one harnes for a deme launce<sup>3</sup> ...hooks and buckells...hewyngc and settyngc of the stones on the same corn wawle...paving at the same.

*Summa totalis* £82. 1s. 1d....de claro £44. 16s.

#### CLXXIV. *Tipling Act.*

Hall Book II, p. 173. [Nov. 18, 1569.] Aile tasters and sworne men within the towne of Leicester aforesaid to make inquiries there of the defalties of tunners & typpers and especially to inquire and present the defalties and trespasses of common dronckerdes that do vse to sitt typplyngc at the aile houses all daye and all nyghte vn-thryftely, and their wyves and children almost sterve at home for lacke of good releffe and sustentacion.

#### CLXXV. *Borough Ordinances.*

Book of Acts, p. 54, and Hall Book II, p. 174. [Jan. 4, 1570.] *An Acte for the agmentyngc of the stocke of the towne of Leicester.*

<sup>4</sup>It is inacted and fully agreyed and establyshed at & by the said assembled & at the same common haule, that a generall leyre or

<sup>1</sup> Tutbury.

<sup>2</sup> of wood: on the single and double quarter, a stud of a particular size, see *N. E. D.* s. v. quarter 19.

<sup>3</sup> Light-horseman armed with a short-shafted lance.

<sup>4</sup> Usual preamble, "in the name of the whole body of the corporation."

colleccion shalbe hade, made & collected throughe oute the whole liberties of the said towne of Leicester, to accomplyshe such extraordinarie charges and forreyn expences as the same corporacion hath of late beyne at, in and aboute the quenes maiesties affayres, in the tyme of the late rebellyon in the North partes of this realme of England, (that is to saye) that euery one of the company of the XXIII shall paye towardes the same charges vis. viiij*l*. to the vse of the Chamber of the said towne of Leicester. And that euery one of the companye callyd the XLVIII shall pay to the same vse iiii*s*. iiiij*l*. And that euery commoner inhabitinge within the liberties of the said towne of Leicester, as well they of good habilitie as of meane habilitie, shall paye to the same vse as they shall be sessed and taxed, at and by the discrecion of the said Mr Maior and his brethren. And that the same shalbe collected and gatherid by the chamberlyns of the same towne for the tyme beinge, within one monath next after the daye of the date of the said common haule, and furthermore it is determined, condissendid and agreyed at and by [the] said assembled, and at the same common haule that all suche tennauntes in Wheston as do houlde any landes tenements or other hereditamentes of the aforesaid corporacion of the towne of Leicester shall be contributors with the inhabitauntes of the said towne of Leicester, towardes the charges and expences aforesaid, accordynge to the tenor of their leases, to be lykewyse collected & gathered by the aforesaid chamberlyns for the tyme beyng within fortie dayes next and immediatly ensuyng the daye of the date of the aforesaid common haule.

Ibid. p. 55. [Jan. 4, 1570.] *An acte that euery common victeler of the towne of Leicester shall set furth an outwarde sygne of his or their vittelynge.* <sup>1</sup>Frome and after the feaste of the Purificacion of the Blessed Virgin Saynt Mary next and immediatly ensuyng, the daye of the date of the said common haule, euery common victeler that nowe inhabiteth or that then shall or will inhabite within the liberties of the towne of Leicester aforesaid, so many as is nowe or then shalbe lawfully admitted or allowed to vse or exersyse the said trade or facultie, shall sett furth an outward sygne & token of his or their so victelyng, vpon payne that euery suche victeler whiche shall or will obstinatly make defalte to the contrarie shall forfeyte and paye for euery month so makynge defalte after the aforesaid feaste of the Purificacion of the Blessed Virgin Saynt Mary vis. viiij*l*. to the vse of the chamber of the said corporacion. And this acte to

<sup>1</sup> Preamble in the same form as above.

be for euer and continewe within the liberties of the said towne of Leicester, for a good order supportacion and mayntenaunce of the same towne.

[Feb. 18, 1570.] *An acte for the pauynge of the common streetes within the liberties of the towne of Leicester.* <sup>1</sup>It is then and there by the mutuall assent consent and agrement of all the said assembled and at the said common haule inacted ratified and establyshed that euery inhabiter within the liberties of the said towne of Leicester havyng or houldynge any manner of landes tenementes dwellynge howses or other hereditamentes there sett lyinge or beyng, shall on this syd the firste daye of August now next and immediatly ensuyng the day of the date of the said common haule, well and sufficiently pave, repave, and amende the common streetes and pauementes so farr as the same do reiche or extende before any their said landes, tenementes, dwellynge housse or houses, (p. 56) and hereditamentes, vpon payne that euery suche person & persons whiche make defalte to the contrary shall forfytt and paye for euery month so makynge defalte after the aforesaid firste daye of August iiis. iiid. to the vse of the chamber of the aforesaid coporacion, to be leviyd by the chamberlyns of the said corporacion for the tyme beyng. And this acte for euer to stande ratified and continewd within the liberties of the said towne of Leicester for a good order supportacion and mayntenance of the same towne.

Book of Acts, p. 56, and Hall Book II, p. 179. [Ap. 14, 1570.] *Act for keeping six posthorses*<sup>2</sup>.

Book of Acts, p. 57, and Hall Book II, p. 179. [April 14, 1570.] *An Act for the confirmation of dyners and sundrie actes ordinances and decrees heretofore inacted ordeyned and decreyed within the liberties of the corporacion of the towne of Leicester.* <sup>3</sup>It is then and there by all the said assembled at the said common haule inacted determined and fully confirmed agreyed & establyshed that all suche actes, ordinances, constitucions, & decrees, whiche at any tyme or tymes at or before the said common haule hath beyn or is lawfully inacted, made, decreyed, ordeyned, ratified, confirmed, determined, or establyshed within the liberties of the said towne of Leicester, that is to saye all and so many of the same as are good & godly, & not in any wise hurtfull or repugnaunt to the lawes of this realme of England, shall frome hencefurth and euer after the daye of date of the said common haule be and stande fully ratified confirmed and established to all

<sup>1</sup> Usual preamble.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. above p. 125.

<sup>3</sup> Usual preamble.

intentens and purposes. And the same for euer to be vsed executed and continewed within the liberties of the said towne of Leicester for the good order, supportacion and mayntenaunce of a common welth within the liberties of the same towne duryng the good pleasure of Aulmightie God. And it is furthermore at and in the said comon haule by all theym aforesaid then and there assembled, it is inacted ordeyned & establyshed that euery maior of the said towne of Leicester for the tyme beyng, for euer after the daye of the date of the aforesaid comon haule, shall once in the yeaere of his office of meraltie and at some suche lyke comon haule whiche shall happe to be houlden within the liberties of the said towne of [Leicester] before and in the presence of hym the said maior for the tyme beyng and his brethren named the XXIII and the whole company of the XLVIII then and there assembled betwene the feastes of Saynt Michaell tharchangell and the Annunciacion of the Blessed Virgin Saynte Mary, then and there shall cause or procure all and euery acte and actes, thyng and thynges afore specified, to be sircumspectly and advizedly perused and dillygently examined in the presence of the said assembled, to the intent that the better reformation may [be] hade, if any thyng amisse shall happen therein to be conteyned.

Hall Book II, p. 194. [Sept. 21, 1570.] (*Lottery.*) Memorandum that the money leid out for the lotarye remening in Mr George Turpyns handes be called for & answered at the next accompt of the chamberlyn.

CLXXVI. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1569—70.] *Rents* (etc.) £160. 14s. 1½d.

*Gyftes*...at the eatyng of venyson more then was getherid 45s. *Sd.*...4 dosen of woodcockes that were gyven to the erle of Warrwick 16s....six cowple of capons 12s....for turke cooke to Mrs Temple 3s. ...Sir Edw. Hastyngs when he went agaynst the rebells in the north<sup>1</sup> 8 Dec. £5 and purse price 1s....a yoke of oxen [gyve]n to the Erle of Huntingdon for his newyers<sup>2</sup> gyft £10. 6s. *Sd.*...2 runts<sup>3</sup> gyven to Mr Fraunces Hastyngs for new yeres gyft £5.

*Fees*...Thomas Breuster clerke of the peace for his fee 6s. *Sd.*...quenes gester 31 Oct. 2s....payd to 20 soldiars—(torn) the quene of

<sup>1</sup> The Catholic rising in the North on behalf of Mary Queen of Scots, Nov. 1569.

<sup>2</sup> New Year's.

<sup>3</sup> oxen.

Skottes to Coventrie<sup>1</sup> £5. 9s. 0d....candell spent at the hall when the soldiars went to Coventrie 7½d....candell spent at the Eastgate with watchmen 10d. (and other gates)...charcole spent in Genysborowe Chambre...cole at the hall...gildyng of the great mace 14s. 6d....quenes plears...8s....weters<sup>2</sup> upon Mr Mayor on Midsomer day (and May Day)...bedills cote 7s. 6d....pursyvaunt that brought proclamation agaynst bryngers of sedissyous bookes suche lyke...Mr Smythes plears 7 Aug....2s....proclamacions ageynst the rebellyous 3 Dec. 3s. 4d....meat for 20 posthorses 2s. 6d....42 posthorses...fyve skore posthorses.....30 horses for a daye and a night 5s....a horse that was lost with postyng 23s. 4d....a saddell covered with buffe lost with postyng 8s. (and several saddles and bridles)...

*Reparacions*...sparre that the netheard had to the Cowheye...wyndowe in Genysborowe chamber...gyttyng stone at the abbye...a pale set in Sore Lane, mendyng the pumpe in Senvye gate and mendyng a bridge at the spittelhowse...

*Summa* £96. 19s. 11d.

*Summa de claro* £63. 14s. 2½d.

#### CLXXVII. *Posthorses and the Clothier.*

Hall Book II, p. 195. [April 17, 1571.] Memorandum that it was agreid at the same common hall that their shalbe † six ‡ posthorses & that euery mayors brother shall paye for the charges therof iis. & euery one of the XLVIII xiiid.

Item that there shalbe xlii. lent to a clotheare for to set the poore on worke & towards that euery mayors brother xviss. xviiiid. & euery one of the XLVIII viiis. iiiid.

#### CLXXVIII. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1570—1.] *Rents...Rcceipts*...shreddinge<sup>3</sup> of the ashes in St Peters churcheyarde 9s....not bringinge his breade to be wayde...Mr Mayor and his bretherne for postehorses 48s....the XLVIII<sup>ii</sup> for the like 48s. ..commons for the like £4. 12s. 10d.

*Summa* £160. 14s. 4d.

<sup>1</sup> On Mary Queen of Scots' removal from Tutbury, Nov. 1569.

<sup>2</sup> waiters, watchmen or waits.

<sup>3</sup> loppings of the smaller branches.



*Gyfts of wyne* (etc.)...to Sir Rauff Sadler and Sir Water Mildmey knights...one Lopwood the Quenes majesties jester 3*s.* 4*d.* ...Sir Edw. Hastings...Mr Samson<sup>1</sup>...buriyenge of a pore man that died in Senvye gate 29 Dec. 8*d.*...goinge to Warwickeshier abowte the townes busines 2*s.*...bringinge of thre does for Mr Mayor and his bretherne 7*s.* 6*d.*...sugar...to Mr Beryn and a preatecher with him... a pickrell, a samon, a turbut, and a hundreth of smelts gevon to the Erle of Huntingdon...(wine) to Mr Crane the preacher...Mr Francis Hastings...Mr Whittingham<sup>2</sup>...Sir Geo. Turpyn...a dossen of chickins 2*s.* 9*d.*, 6 cople of capons 12*s.*...Earle of Bedford...charges at the eatinge of venison the weeke before Mighellmas as it apeyrith particularlie in a bill thereof £4. 7*s.* 11*d.*

*Fees*...to the weaters<sup>3</sup> on Mighelmas daie for waytinge upon Mr Mayor 2*s.*...Erle of Leicester playors more (etc.) 8*s.* 6*d.*... bearward at Mr Mayors dynner more (etc.)...paper and waxe for certificates for roges<sup>4</sup> accordinge to the statute<sup>5</sup> 6*d.*...pluckinge downe A. C.'s shoppe in the Market place 8*d.*...lord of Burgenyes<sup>6</sup> playars 3*s.* 4*d.*...for waxe and small corde and 2 whyppes to whippe vagaboundes 7*d.*...Richardson the burneman<sup>7</sup> for his carte fyve tymes abowte the towne with vagabonds 1*s.* 3*d.*...a manne that came from Darbye to searche the waters for setting upp of a milne...carte abowte the towne to whyppe Shanton and one other...

*Sum* £87. 9*s.* 1*d.*...de claro £93. 5*s.* 3*d.*

#### CLXXIX. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book II, p. 200. [Nov. 16, 1571.] (*St Peter's.*) Memorandum that at this present hall it is agreid that the tymber of seynt Peters churche shalbe taken downe & kept in safete with the lead vntill further order be taken therein.

(*Gowms.*) Item that the sargiauntes shall haue gownes one yere & the weates another, & the seriauntes to begyn this yere.

Ibid. p. 203. [Feb. 28, 1572.] *For y<sup>e</sup> muckell<sup>s</sup> nere Mr John Stanfordes.* Item it is also agreed vpon by the said Mr Maior his bretherne and the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> that whoe so ever shall either ley or cause to be leyde vpon the nowe muckell or anye parte thereof which is nere adioyninge to the dwellinge howse of Mr John Stanforde anye maner of garbydge,

<sup>1</sup> Master of Wigston's Hospital.

<sup>2</sup> Dean of Durham and translator of the Bible; Chaplain to the Earl of Warwick.

<sup>3</sup> See p. 132, note 2.

<sup>4</sup> rogues.

<sup>5</sup> 1 Ed. VI. c. 3, § 6.

<sup>6</sup> Abergavenny.

<sup>7</sup> See note above, p. 86, note 4.

<sup>8</sup> muckhill.

mucke or anye other kyende of fylthe at any tyme after the feast of the Annunciacion of S<sup>t</sup> Marie the Virgyn next commynge after the said common hawle shall forfyt & paye to the Chamber of the towne of Leicester for euery defalt *xiiid.*, to be levied of the howsseholder from whence the same fylth, mucke or garbydge was brought.

*For a clothiar.* Item in the greate Boke is recorded at large an Acte made at the common hall for a clothier to occupie the trade of makinge of clothe within this towne of Leicester, and the *XXIII<sup>ti</sup>* and *XLVIII<sup>ti</sup>* have likewise agreeid to lend to the said clothiar one hundred merkes for & duringe the tyme of sevon yeres next after the daye of the date of this said common hall, puttinge in good assureance to the chamber of the towne for the reypeament of the same, as by the same acte in the said greate Booke doth more at large declare<sup>1</sup>.

Book of Acts, p. 58. [Feb. 28, 1572.] *A Salte bought.* At the same common hawle it was agreed by the *XXIII<sup>ti</sup>* & *XLVIII<sup>ti</sup>* in the name of the wholl bodye of the towne of Leicester for the payment of a Salte of Sylver gilte, bought of Mr James Clarke, one of the comburgeces of the same towne, the price thereof is tenne poundes sixe pence, & to be paid of the towne stocke, which Salte shalbe kepte allweys hereafter to the vse of the towne, and to be lent to the mayor for his yere, and so to mayors successors allweis hereafter, the same mayor safelie at the goinge forthe of his meraltie to delyuer over the same Salte to his successor in the presence of foure of the mayors bretherne & of the chamberlyns provided alweyes the chamber of the towne is the owner thereof. And the chamberlyns for the tyme beinge, yerelie, & from yere to yere, ever hereafter to accounte & sett over the same Salte in there accounte by them yerelie to thuse of the towne made<sup>2</sup>, the which salt doethe weye with the covor thereof...

*For a C merkes lent to the clothier.* And also that wheras Sur Tho. Bradgate of Glocester, clothier, att the speciaall request of the Right Honorable Henrie Earle of Huntingdon ys appoynted & myended to sett vpp clothinge within the towne of Leicester whereby the poore inhabitinge their shall not onlie be sett on worke but therebye to bee kepte from idlenes; in confirmacion of the same the comburgeses of the said towne of Leicester named the *XXIII<sup>ti</sup>* and *XLVIII<sup>ti</sup>* nowe at this present assembled, for and in the name of the corporacion of the said towne, have upon the desire of the said Honorable Earle condissended concluded and agreed to lende vnto the said Tho. Bradgate the somme of one hundred merkes of lawfull monye of

<sup>1</sup> Book of Acts, p. 58, see below.

<sup>2</sup> The accounts record annually, at the end of the roll, the handing-over of the salt-cellar to the in-coming officers.

England, ffor and dueringe the tyme & space of seven yeares: videlicet vnto the feast daie of S<sup>t</sup> Michaell tharchangell which shalbee in the yeare of our Lorde God one thowsand fyve hundred seventie and nyne, which said somme to bee levied as followethe, videlicet of the XXIII<sup>th</sup> xs. apece, and of the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> xs. apece<sup>1</sup>, and the residewe lackinge to be paid owte of the towne stocke, and for the repayment thereof sufficient bondes to be taken by the said maior or his successors.

Deadyck<sup>2</sup>.

Book of Acts, p. 59. [April 17, 1572.] *For the lending of the hall.* At a comen hall holden the XVII<sup>th</sup> daie of Aprill anno infra scripto, was made diuers orders, as by the litle Boke for the kepinge & recordinge of the same dothe apeire, emongst which these actes & orders hereunder writton were made penned & apoynted by the wholl consent of them their associate & assembled, viz....

Item that the hall nor no parte thereof nor no ymplementh belonginge to the same shall not at anye tyme hereafter be lente to the paratours<sup>3</sup> nor no other person nor parsons, neyther by the mayor for his tyme beinge, nor no other officer nor officers etc., of the payne of vis. viiij*l*. for euery defalte to the vse of the chamber of the towne.

#### CLXXX. *Orphans' Goods.*

Book of Acts, p. 59, and Hall Book II, p. 156. [Ap. 1572.] *The othe of the mayore for the observinge in all poyntes the acte hereafter made & writton for Orphanthes goodes.* Yowe shall trulie execute observe & kepe the order & constitutions in the acte hereafter writton made for & conserninge Orphanthes goodes in all poyntes that thereto belongeth, and also that yow shall once in the yere of your office of meyraltie enquire if any of the suerties of any executors executrice or suche like whom his or their testator did put in truste for the said orphanthes goodes be deade, departed the towne, or otherwise dekeyed of his substaunce; then yowe shall there vpon take suche order for the same as by your discretion shall seme beste, so the said Orphanthes maye be in assuraunce of their goodes & legacies accordinge to their parentes will & bequestes. And further that yowe shall cawle before yowe & the chamberlyns of this towne for the tyme beinge, of the

<sup>1</sup> On p. 62 of the Book of Acts the list of names is given. The total from the XXIII and XLVIII was £47, and £19 was lent of the stock of the chamber.

<sup>2</sup> Signature of W. Dethick, Mayor's clerk; it is now regularly appended to each entry throughout the century.

<sup>3</sup> cloth-workers.

Thursdaye in the firste weke of Lente in the tyme of your said office of meraltie, all & euery suche person & persones as shall then stand & be bounde, as any suertie or suerties for & conserninge the said Orphanes goodes, to thintente yowe shall see the said suerties & euerye of them, alwayes from tyme to tyme to be sufficient and able to discharge theire bondes according to your witte & discession, soo helpe yow God & the contentes of this Booke.

*An Acte for Orphanes Goodes*<sup>1</sup>. As above (p. 104) save that the unfranchised as well as the franchised are brought under the act. It is signed "Per W. Dedyck Clericum majoris predicti."

#### CLXXXI. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book II, p. 205. [April 27, 1572.] At the same common hall thies actes hereunder writton there made by the consent of all them then & there associate, viz.

*Burgeois namid (of) parliament.* Inprimis, by the wholl advise consent & agrement of the said common hall etc. hit was & is appoynted that Robt. Braham Esquier recorder, and Mr John Stanford shalbe & are elected named & chosen the burgeses of this towne of Leicester, for the parliament to be holden at the cite of Westminster the viii<sup>th</sup> daye of Maye next etc.

*Poste horses.* Item at the same hall it was agreeid that there shalbe sixe post horses kept of the charges of the towne (etc.).

*For stawles in the market place.* Item that there shalbe no stawles, formes, tressles, nor hurdles, bordes, nor blockes, vsed of the market daye for occupiers & artificers to be lefte in the market place after the market is donn, beinge removeable, for the annoyance of the Qucens maiesties leage people, vpon peyne of cuery defalt to thuse of the chamber of the towne aforesaid xiiid.

*Apprentis indentes.* Item that no person nor persons within the towne of Leycester or the liberties of the same shall not take nor kepe any apprentis but by indenture, to be made by the mayors clarke, for which he to have xvid. & no more for euery peire & the same to be sealed and recorded befor the mayor by his said clarke & to have for euery record of the master iiiid., vpon peyn of eueryone doinge the contrarye to thuse of the chambre of the towne vis. viiid. for euery defalte.

*Seriant fee*<sup>2</sup>. Item the mayors seriante to have for euery one committed to the mayors hall vid.

<sup>1</sup> Cf. Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 257.

<sup>2</sup> with the note that the rule is void "vacc".

Hall Book II, p. 207. [July 28, 1572.] (*Mayor's fee.*) Inprimis, that y<sup>e</sup> mayore of the said towne of Leicester shall have yearlye for ever hereafter twentie markes fee, for & towards the better mayntenaunce of his howsse kepinge, and to be paid by the chamberlyns of the said towne, at the tymes that was vsed when there was but ten poundes paid etc.

Hall Book II, p. 209. [Sept. 21, 1572.] (*Fec of Mayor's Clerk.*) Item at this assembly and eleccion of the maior it was & is agreed that the maiors clarcke shoulde have foure nobles a yere more wages then euer hath byn paid, and the same to be paid by the chamberlyns etc.<sup>1</sup>

CLXXXII. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1571—2.] *Rents...Receipts...*Sir Geo. Turpyn knight for the lotterie monye £2. 1s. 11d....for fetchinge of rawe clothe within the liberties...

*Totall...*£160. 17s. 5½d.

*...Giftes.* Lokwood the quenes maiesties Jester 2s. 6d....an oxe that was gevon to Mr Fraunces Hastings for a newe yeares gifte £4. 3s. 4d....sugar...Sir Raulf Sadler...Erle of Shroesburie...Mr John Stanford...Darbie men at Mathewe Norreses weddinge...a fatt calf and two fatt weathers gevon to the Earle of Huntingdon £1. 13s. 6d....eatinge of venyson in sommer more then was received of the XXIII<sup>th</sup> and XLVIII<sup>th</sup> 10s. 2d....to the salte peter man<sup>2</sup>...the Countys of Huntingdon...

*Fecs...*pleyars that did not play 2s....dressinge and leytherynge of the armorie £2. 3s. 2d....pleyars of Coventrie...a box for the obligations for orphantes 8d...paid owte of the lotterie money to R.E. (and others)...for a salte of silver and gilte weyinge 36 ounces and a half bought for the towne £10. 0s. 6d....a carte abowte the towne to whip vacabonds...to Mr Recorder one of the burgeces of the parliament towards his charges there £4...paid owte of the towne stocke to Thomas Bragate the clothiour £19...the commission confirminge St Peters church...Mr Mayore and his bretherne at Loughborowe when the<sup>3</sup> mett the Mayore of Nottingham 26s. 8d.<sup>4</sup>...quenes Maiesties her pleyars...Erle of Leycester hys pleyars...one goinge to London with a lettre from the Earle of Huntingdon to the Earle of Warwicke abowte the townes

<sup>1</sup> signed "per W. Dedyck, clericum ibidem."

<sup>2</sup> of whom more below.

<sup>3</sup> the=they.

<sup>4</sup> For discussion concerning passage for Leicester cattle, see *Nottingham Records* IV. 144. l. 12. And see below, p. 157.

busynes consernynge the salt peter man<sup>1</sup>...Richardson for his peynes for giedinge the lorde Hunsdon to Lutterworth withoute consider<sup>2</sup> 1s....a newe purce for the scale and Towne keyes 3d....J. O. for leyinge the filthe or mucke of the marketplace in his yarde 8d....an answeere of a lettre from Lutterworthe consernynge suspecte persons...in earneste for the takinge downe of the tymber of St Peters church 4d....a booke of the last statutes 10d....

*Reparacions*...scoveringe of the watering place at the Cowe hey.  
...*Totall* £113. 13s. 6d....de claro £37. 3s. 11½d....

### CLXXXIII. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book II, p. 215. [Feb. 9, 1573.] (*Highways.*) Order taken for the payment of a sum of money left by Ellen Timms, widow, of Leicester towards the mending of highways.

Ibid. p. 216. [Feb. 18, 1573.] (*Sale of land.*) At this common hawle it is agreed by the coburgeces there assembled for & in the name of the corporacion of the said towne that for diuerse cawses them speciallie movinge, have thought good to sell one tenemente with thappurtenaunces scituate betwene the North Brigges in the Northe Gatt of the said towne of Leicester (for £40).

*For the survey of the towne land.* Also at the same common hawle it is agreed by the comburgeces there assembled that there shalbee no more nor any other parte or parcell of the landes & tenementes belonginge to the chamber of the said towne of Leicester solde or otherwise lett or exchaunged before the same & euery parte & parcell thereof have byn surveyed by them whose names are followinge (8 named): which survey to bee made & fynissshed before Easter next comynge after the same common hawle etc.

(p. 217.) *For billes for XXIII & XLVIII for money lent to the clothier*<sup>3</sup>. Also at the same common hawle it is agreed that wheare there was certyn monye lent by the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> & XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> (except Mr Robt. Fletcher) to one Tho. Bradgate, clothiar, for & dureinge the tyme or terme of seven yeares, viz. the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> (except before excepted) xxs. apeece, and by the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> xs. apeece, whose names with there seuerall sommes are recorded in the other greate Booke<sup>4</sup>, and for the assurance of the payment of the same ageyne to the said parties & euery of theym, there executors or assignes, it is nowe therefore further agreed vpon that euery one of the said parties, or

<sup>1</sup> See *Nottingham Records* III. p. 218, note, and further illustration below.

<sup>2</sup> recompense.

<sup>3</sup> A note that the whole is void, 'vacc.', is in the margin.

<sup>4</sup> See above, p. 135.

so manye of them as will, shall make there seuerall billes obligatorie, thereby byendinge the corporacion of the said towne of Leicester for the payment of the said seuerall sommes with billes; and euery of them to bee amplified vnder the common seale of the said towne of Leicester, which seale to be free to the said parties fyendinge waxe thereunto etc.

*For the weytes gownes.* Also it is further agreed at this said common hawle that they, the nowe weytes appoynted for the said towne of Leicester, shall have gownes for this yeare: the price to bee vis. viiid. or viis. a yarde at the mooste.

CLXXXIV. *School-House and Water Conduit.*

Book of Acts, p. 66. [April 7, 1573.] *A copy of the Indenture for the Free Scolle in Leycester.* This indenture made the vii<sup>th</sup> day of Aprill in the fyftenth yeare of the raigne of our soueraigne ladie Elizabeth by the grace of God, quene of Englande Fraunce and Irelande, defendor of the faith, betwene the same our saide soueraigne ladye on the one partie and the maior and coburgesses off the towne of Leicester in the countie of Leicester on the other partye: Witnesseth that our saide soueraigne ladie as well for the somme of thirte fyve poundes of lawfull Englishe money to be paide vnto they<sup>1</sup> handes of the generall reyceivor of hir maiesties Duchy of Lancaster in manner and forme folowing (terms named), as also for other good causes and consideracions, hath barganed, solde, geven, and graunted, and by theis presentes dothe bargaine, sell, gyve, and graunt vnto the saide maior and coburgensses all the ladye<sup>2</sup>, ston and tymber, wiche nowe is or at anny tyme sithens xx<sup>4</sup> day of June last was laide, being or remaining in and vppon the decayed churche in Leicester aforesed, commonly called Sent Peters churche, being parcell of the possessions of hir maiesties Duchie of Lancaster, wiche laide<sup>2</sup> by commysshon lately directed to Fraunces Hastings, Adrian Stokes, and Frauncis Samwell, Esquiars, was certified to be and ammount vnto fowre fowders<sup>3</sup> and fyve hundred pounce: and her maiestie couenauntith and graunteth by thes presentes that it shalbe lawfull for the saide maior and coburgesses, the saide laide<sup>2</sup>, tymber and ston to take downe, digg vpp, and carry away, and to vse and convert the same to their moste comoditie and advauntage; and the saide maior and coburgesses for them and their successors do covenaut and graunt

<sup>1</sup> they = the.

<sup>2</sup> lead.

<sup>3</sup> fothers; probably of 20 cwt. each.

with and to owre saide soueraine ladye, hir heres and successors, not onely to erect, builde, and set vpp within the space one yeare next after the date heare of in some conveinient and meet place within the said towne of Leicester one substauncyall scoole howse meet and fitt for childarne to bee taught in, made with windowes and dowres necessary, and covered with slate: And the same scolle howse so built from tyme to tyme suffycientlye to repaire, mainetaine, and vpholde in all thinges necessary for they<sup>1</sup> same for ever: But also to employe the saide laide, stone and tymber in and bout the edyfying of the saide scolle hows. And also to employ the ouerplus of the saide laide, ston and tymber, yf anny bee remayning after the saide scolle howse so builded, on the bringing of a Conduite of freshe water into the saide towne of Leicester. (Sealing clause.)

Ibid. p. 67. *Schole Howse.* Be it had in memorie that this yeare of the meraltie of Mr John Eyricke, viz. in the fiftenth yeare of the raigne of our moste drad soueraign ladye Elizabeth, nowe Quene of England, was the Scoole howse begunne to be buylded and erected etc.

Deadycke.

#### CLXXXV. *Commission for Musters.*

Box 1 A, No. 515. [Ap. 24, 1573.] Latin letters patent of Queen Elizabeth to Sir George Turpyne, Adrian Stokes Esq., John Heyrick Mayor, Will. Manby, Tho. Stanford, Ric. Davye, John Tatam and James Clark burgesses, appointing them commissioners to muster knights, footmen, archers and "scloppetarii<sup>2</sup>" between the ages of 16 and 60 and to inspect the array and assign horses and arms and instruments of war, and teach and exercise recruits and those ignorant of military matters the use of horses, arms and warlike apparatus.

With it (English) a direction for the commissioners for the musters in the town of Leicester how they shall proceed in the execution of the said commission from the Privy Council<sup>3</sup>, the commission being "not so proper for the mustering and training of soldiers both on horseback and on foot in cities and towns corporate and other exempt places as in the shires abroad," yet "many of the articles very mete and necessary." A special commission is therefore directed for the mustering and training of all manner of able persons in Leicester, without respect of any persons. Instructions are to be received from the commissioners of the shire, who have them at good length.

(Great seal attached.)

<sup>1</sup> they = the.

<sup>2</sup> Soldiers armed with carbines and arquebuses, *Hist. MSS. Com.* 15th Rep. pt. x. p. 126. See Ducange s. v. *sclopetum*: the word appears to have been first applied to Turkish soldiery. Cf. Fr. *escopette*, Italian *scioppo*.

<sup>3</sup> Note of issue of such letters in Dasent, *Privy Council*, 1573, p. 99.



CLXXXVI. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book II, p. 217. [May 8, 1573.] The xxiiii pay 2s. and the xlviii 1s. each to the keep of four posthorses, the rest to be raised of the best of the commons, by Mr Mayor's assessing: 25s. 8d. to be paid for the keep of each horse.

Hall Book II, p. 218, and Book of Acts, p. 65. [May 8, 1573.] *For the exchange betwene the towne and Mr Moreton.* Item at the same common hawle it was agreed that Mr Morton alias Will. Moreton one of the coburgeces of Leicester shoulde have for ever the tenemente called the Stockes Howse<sup>1</sup> lyeinge & beinge within the tenemente of the said Will. wherein he nowe dwellethe & nowe in the occupacion of the same W<sup>m</sup>. He the said Will. in consideracion thereof hathe at the same common hall gevon vnto the said towne the somme of xls. & also one pece of ground, parcell of his orcharde or gardyn wherevpon parcell of the Scole is nowe erected & buylded, the agreement hereof at lardge is recorded in the othere greate Booke couered like this Boke etc.

Hall Book II, p. 218. (*Lease.*) Also at the same coman hawle it is agreed that Robt. Johnson of Leicester, mason, for & in consideracion of the surrendringe vp to the towne of his olde leaze of a pece of grounde that he holdethe (wherevpon parcell of the scoole is erected & buylded and all the resydue of the same grounde is also leyde to the said scoole for a walkinge place or back syde to the said same) should have a newe leaze for xxi yeares from Michaellmas next after this comon hawle of a close of the said townes called the Tayllors' Close, now in thoccupacion of Mr Darker, payinge therefore yerelye to the chamber of the towne the some of xs. the towne payinge all suche charges for the indentures & seale, as the said Johnson should doo.

(*Lease.*) Also at the same coman hawle it was agreed that Mr Rich. Darker, one of the coburgeces of Leicester etc. shoulde have a lease of the willowes of the Cowe Hey, from Mighelmas next, vnto thend & terme of xxi yeares, payinge yerly therefore sixe shillinges and eight pence etc.

Book of Acts, p. 67. [Sept. 21, 1573.] *An Acte for the Electinge of the Chamberlyns.* Whereas at one common hall holden at Leycester on S<sup>t</sup> Mathewe Daye in the sixte yeare of the raigne of the late kinge of famous memorie kinge Henrie the Seventh, in the tyme

<sup>1</sup> The lease of the tenement at the High Cross sometime called the Stocks house belonging to the corporation is in Hall Book II, p. 176.

of the meraltie of Tho. Davie<sup>1</sup>, yt was ordeyned that yf any inhabitaunt or inhabitauntes of the said towne sholde be named and electyd by the maior or by the maiores brothern or by the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> for the tyme beinge, or by the more parte of them, to be chamberleyne or chamberleyns, by the maior chosen for hym or by the commonalty chosyn for them, and yt refuse & will not occupie the said office, that then forthwith to procede to a newe election of chamberlyn or chamberlyns, and he or they that so refuse to occupie the said offyce shall contente & paye to the chamberlyns for the tyme beinge of the same towne to thuse of the comminaltye the somes of *vli.* & for the said some of *vli.* to be discharged of the said office, and to be taken & reputed as a chamberlyne, & further as in the said order is conteynyed. But nowe forsomuche as the said order as well throughe the ambiguytie & doubtfullnes of wordes as also for dyuerse other imperfeccions in the same is not thought goode to have any further contynauce, yt is therefore at this presente common hall holden at Leycester of Mondaye the XXI<sup>th</sup> daye of September in the fiftenth yere of the raigne of our moste dradd Soueraigne lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God quene of England Fraunce & Ireland, defendor of the faith etc., ordeyned, enactyd, & establisshed for and conserninge the eleccion & choyse of the said chamberlyns in maner & forme followinge; That ys to saye, first that the forsaid acte and ordeynauce made in the forsaid sixt yere of kinge Henrie the VII and euery braunch, article, clause, & sentence therein conteyned shall from hensforth be repellyd<sup>2</sup>, frustrate, & vtterlye made voyde & of no valyditie to all intentes, construccions & purposes, and in place thereof be it further enactyd & ordeynyd that from hensforthe yt shall & maye be lauffull as well for the mayore electyd to nominate & chose his chamberleyne, and for the comminaltie to chose & electe for their chamberlyne as well anye suche person or persons as have not before fyned & dispensed for the sayd office, as also of anye suche person or persons as have fyned & dispensed for the same, nevertheles with this consideracion that [if] such eleccion be made of suche as have fyned for the same, of them in order as they be moeste aunncient in eleccion, and if anye of the forsaid persons inhabitant of the said towne so as aforesayd electyd & chosyn doe willfullie & obstinatlye refuse & will not serve in the office of chamberleyne as aforesaid, that (no conclusion).

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<sup>1</sup> See II. pp. 328—9.

<sup>2</sup> repealed.

CLXXXVII. *Pleas of the Portmannmoot.*

Box M. No. 253<sup>1</sup>. [Sep. 29, 1572—Sep. 29, 1573.].....(Beginning imperfect)...

Et predictus Laur. Stables ad hunc diem protulit responsum suum versus Will. Ellyott de placito debiti predicti. Et profert xxxiiis. iiid. parcellam liiis. iiid. hic in curia et petit quod vadat legem de xxs. residuo liiis. iiid. ad proximam curiam. Ideo consideratum est per curiam se et sexta manu †ad† facere legem suam Et predictus Will. Ellyott ponit loco suo in predicto placito ad lucrandum vel perdendum etc. Thomam Lester (and Stables likewise appoints an attorney).

...Ad quam curiam tam predictus Rob. Taylor quam predictus Nicholaus Carter per attornatos suos predictos veniunt et quia visum est curie quod forma narrationis ac eciam responsionis predictae vitiose sunt etc. Ideo concessum est quod partes †predicti† replacent<sup>2</sup>, incipientes ad querelam predicti Roberti.

[A number of entries in which "co. nar." i.e. a copy of the "narration" or plaintiff's count is asked for, or a "sci. fac." "scire facias" (a writ to shew cause to the court why execution of a judgment should not be made out), or a "cap. ad sat." a "capias ad satisfaciendum," a writ to secure the attachment of the defendant to satisfy the plaintiff's debt, or a "ve. fac." a "venire facias," a writ to cause a jury to come.]

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And the aforesaid L. S. on this day offered his answer against W. E. concerning the plea of the aforesaid debt. And he proffers £1. 13s. 4d., part of the £2. 13s. 4d., here in court and craves to wage law concerning the £1 remaining over of the £2. 13s. 4d. at the next court. Therefore it was decided by the court that he should make oath himself and with the sixth hand<sup>3</sup>. And the aforesaid W. E. appoints in his place in the aforesaid plea, to win or to lose, etc. T. L. (his attorney).

At which court come both the aforesaid R. T. and the aforesaid N. C. by their aforesaid attorneys and because it appeared to the court that the form of the plaintiff's count and also that of the aforesaid reply are bad etc. therefore it was agreed that the aforesaid parties shall replead, beginning with the plea of the said R. T.

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<sup>1</sup> On paper, folded in book form: in part badly defaced and torn. Extracts only are given: the mass of the entries relate to appearances by attorney, defaults, essoins (excuses), court-days appointed, in pleas of debt and trespass. Debts to any amount were recoverable in this court. This roll is the most detailed of the Elizabethan rolls which are extant. The later examples give no details of the progress of the action, merely a record of its beginning.

<sup>2</sup> MS. replënd.

<sup>3</sup> With six compurgators, see below.

Curia Portemot etc. ibidem tenta vii die Julii anno xiiii infradicto coram prefato Maiore, Recordatore, Will. Manbye, Joh. Herycke, Tho. Stanford, et aliis comburgensibus ville predictæ ibidem presentibus etc.

*Materia inter J. W. querentem et T. S. concordatur.*

Ric. Parker venit in propria persona sua. Et predictus Will. obtulit se versus eundem Ricardum in predicto placito. Et petit copiam et licentiam loquendi etc.

Ad quam curiam venit predictus Laurencius<sup>1</sup> in sua propria persona cum sexta manu viz. (6 named) facere legem suam in placito predicto. Et perfecit legem etc.

Et predictus Will. Ellyott venit per Thomam Lester attornatum suum et protulit responsum suum versus prefatum Laurencium Staples et protulit in curia xiiis. et recepti sunt etc. Et predictus Laurencius petit copiam *narrationis* predictæ et dies datus est prefato L. usque proximam curiam hic etc. ad perficiendam legem se et sexta manu etc.

...Ad quam quidem Curiam venit predictus W. Irenmonger per Thomam Grene generosum consiliarium suum et petit iudicium de querela predicta Thome Robye eo quod narracio sua variat de querela predicta et etc. ea causa quod per querelam predicti Thome idem

Court of Portmoot etc. held there July 7 in the aforesaid fourteenth year before the aforesaid Mayor, Recorder, (3 named) and other comburgesses of the aforesaid town there present etc.

The matter between J. W. plaintiff and T. S. is settled by agreement.

R. P. comes in his own person. And the aforesaid W. offered himself against the said R. P. in the aforesaid plea. And craves a copy (of the pleading) and leave to plead etc.

At which court comes the aforesaid L. S. in his own person with the sixth hand viz. (6 named) to make his law in the aforesaid plea. And he made good his law etc.

And the aforesaid W. E. comes through T. L. his attorney and offered his answer against the aforesaid L. S. and offered 12s. in court and they were taken etc. And the aforesaid L. S. craves a copy of the aforesaid count. And day<sup>2</sup> was given to the aforesaid L. until the next court here etc. to make good his law, himself and the sixth hand etc.

At which said court comes the aforesaid W. I. by T. G. Gent. his counsel, and craves judgement on the aforesaid plea of T. R. because his count varies from the aforesaid plea and etc. inasmuch as by the plea of the aforesaid T. the said T. is called T. R. butcher and by forgetfulness he is

<sup>1</sup> Laur. Stables, see above.

<sup>2</sup> A term is appointed.

Thomas vocatur Thomas Robye boucher et per obliuim vocatur yoman. Et eo quod Curia etc. avisare etc. Idem dies etc.

...Ric. Rey essoniari se fecit de malo veniendi per Adam Skye versus J. K. and Margaretam uxorem eius executricem testamenti Jacobi Frost de placito debiti.

...Eo quod predictus H. S. non venit qui habuit diem per essonium usque nunc, fiat alia *districtio*.

...Et Curia ulterius advisare vult usque proximam curiam inter C. L. querentem et R. J. defendentem.

Et predictus M. C. licet solemniter exactus non venit sed deficit. Ideo predictus Ricardus petit quod predictus M. attachietur.

J. B....Tam pro domina regina quam pro seipso queritur versus A. T. de placito debiti super statutum anno v<sup>to</sup> Eliz. etc.

(There are many pleas of trespass "on the case," of personal wrong without force, so called, Blackstone says, because the plaintiff's whole cause was set forth in the original writ.)

(*Bill of Costs*.) The costs that Mr John Stanford hath sustayned in an accion that he brought agaynst Henry Wygley as followythe.

In primis for the capias 1s.

Item for his declaracion drawyng 1s.

Item for his attorney fees for thre dayes 1s.

Item for his counsell 3s. 4d.

Item for his contynuans 4d.

Item for his Judgment 4d.

Item for the entringe of his confessyon 4d.

*Summa totalis* 7s. 4d.

Allocatur per curiam 4s.

called yeoman (in the count). And because the Court etc. (it is decided) to take counsel etc. The same day etc.

R. R. essoined himself on the ground of difficulty of travelling by A. S. against J. K. and M. his wife executrix of the will of James Frost, in a plea of debt.

Because the aforesaid H. S. has not come who had day by esoin till now, let a second distress be made.

And the court wishes further to take counsel till the next court between C. L. plaintiff and R. J. defendant.

And the aforesaid M. C. although solemnly called came not but stayed away. Therefore the aforesaid R. craves that the aforesaid M. be attached.

J. B. both for the lady Queen and for himself complains against A. T. in a plea of debt on the statute of 5 Eliz. etc.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Not found.

CLXXXVIII. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1572—3.] *Rents...Receipts...given by Mistris Overend...Mr Bramley*<sup>1</sup> for the schole...goodwife Tymes<sup>2</sup> to the toune...*Summa*...£117. 8s. 11d.

*Gyftes...*Quenes jester...Lord of Wusters<sup>3</sup> players...two steyses<sup>4</sup> that was given to Mr F. Hastings then beinge the heighe sheriff for a new yeares gifte £7. 6s. 8d...Master Sampson<sup>5</sup> in Lent...2C. oysters 1 jole<sup>6</sup> & 1 shyne<sup>7</sup> of samon & 1 pece of scate 6s. 2d...sugar...cakes to Sir Geo. Hastings knight & dyvers other knights & gentlemen at the Cocke Pitte 12s. 6d...salte peter man...at the musters...pursyvaunte that brought proclamacions concernyng the order for service<sup>8</sup>...one that brought doune a lettre from the Counselle consernynge promotors<sup>9</sup>...Lord of Sussex playars in Julye in reward for that they did not play 5s....old Counties of Huntingdon at my lordes house...late maior towards his charges for 3 dynners made for the Justices of the toune and other speciall comysioners for the subsidye & musters £2.

*Fecs...*Clarcke of the Pease 6s. 8d...Will. Deadicke the Maiors clarcke for his wages 26s. 8d...to a dum man...4d...widowes of St Jones<sup>10</sup> for lokinge to the tymber that was theire leade<sup>11</sup> 6d...lettre to the saltepeter man...carriage of formes to the old hall & for makinge clene of the same for a scoole for the tyme 6d...watchinge of the leade certen nights at St Peters church 5s. 6d...cakes and ale for Mr Maior & others at a metinge at the hall 9d...to a pore boxe that was sent to Newport...Earle of Leyster his bearward...drinke at a common hall 2d...the bellman for goinge abowte the toune for cariars of woode and for spynners...2 C. of settes<sup>12</sup> for the Cowehy 1s. ...Quenes majesties generall receyvour of her dutchie of Lancaster...in part payment for the sale of St Peters church £10...master of the fre scole towards the mendinge of the glasse wyndowe at St Nicholas church when the scole was theire 2s....a pore man for carriage bordes to the toune hall...boxe for the indentures of St Peters church...a shovel for the cole howse 1s....carriage of a precept to the baylie of Packington for coles...makinge of certen weights...Mr John Stanford that was unpeyd to hym of the C. marke

<sup>1</sup> Queen's Receiver in succession to Woodall.

<sup>2</sup> See above, p. 116.

<sup>3</sup> Worcester.

<sup>4</sup> steers.

<sup>5</sup> Master of Wigston's Hospital.

<sup>6</sup> jowl.

<sup>7</sup> chine: see *N.E.D.*

<sup>8</sup> at the musters.

<sup>9</sup> Not among the Council records, ed. Dasent. 'Promoters' were informers.

<sup>10</sup> See above p. 94, note 1.

<sup>11</sup> there laid.

<sup>12</sup> quicksets.

lent to the clothiour 13s. 4d....Maiors clarcke for allowance of paper 3s. 4d....wrytinge of this accompt 6s. 8d....paid to the Maiors breth-erne & the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> of the monye lent to the clothiar the some of £22. the particuler payments is sett downe in the greate Paper Boke<sup>1</sup>....

*Reparacions*...scowering the springe at St James Chappell<sup>2</sup> 13s. 2d. ...the woman that dwelles in the howse at the same springe in recumpence for maringe<sup>3</sup> her gardyn 6d....

*Totall* £119. 8s. 7d....toune indebted...£1. 19s. 8d.

### CLXXXIX. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book II, p. 212, Nov. 20, 1573. Act for night-walkers renewed, see above, p. 73. Order that the new waits shall continue.

Ibid. p. 227. *For the brogers<sup>4</sup> or pledgers of stuff etc.* Memorandum at the forsaid comon hall hit was appoynted that whereas their hathe dyuers & sondrye evill persons vsed the trade of sellinge of apparell & howshold stuff and suche like thinges & have byn called & knowne by the name of Brogers or pledge women. and for that they have disorderlye vsed the same in hawkinge abrode from howsse to howsse, as also have deyceyved dyverse persons who have gevon creadit vnto them with their stuff, to the greate losse & hindrans of the same persons, and for that it is thought mete & necessarie to have such persons (to vse the said trade of Brogers) as be of honest dealinge & behavior, hit was therefore at this common hawle appoynted as aforesaid that Ric. Raynsford and Will. Shippon shall have vse and exercise the said offices of brogars as aforesaid and non other, and they or eyther of them to have for their peynes for sutche stuff as they shall so sell 1d. shilling<sup>5</sup> & no more, and all suche stuff shalbe by them sold in their shoppes at their dwellinge howses and on the fayre or markytt dayes, in theyre oppon standinges, and in no other places, and also they to be bounde to the maior with one sufficient suertye at the least in the somme of (blank), for their trewe honest and just dealinge therein etc. which bondes to be taken yearelye by the maior for the tyme beinge etc.

p. 228. *For the leasinge or improvinge of the towne land etc.* Memorandum that for diuers good and necessarie cawces at the

<sup>1</sup> Book of Acts.

<sup>2</sup> Near St Sepulchre's, outside the South gate, Throsby, p. 275.

<sup>3</sup> marrying.

<sup>4</sup> Broggers, brokers, dealers in second-hand clothes and furniture, pawnbrokers.

<sup>5</sup> ? a penny in the shilling.

<sup>6</sup> A note in the margin 'vacc.' void.

common hawle within wrytton was appoynted certen of the com-burgeses to have auctorytye for the leasinge ymprovinge or otherwyse dealinge for the landes and heredytamentes apperteyninge to the chamber of the towne of Leycestre to the moest commodytye & profytt of the same towne (except sale onlye, which withowte the consent of all the rest of the comburgeses they shall not passe). The names of them appoynted for this purpose ys: (8 named).

Hall Book II, p. 227. [Nov. 29, 1573.] *Assisa servicie...* Mr Maior didd give a newe sise unto the bruars viz. didd license them to sell theire ale for *iiid.* the gallon till he gave commandement to the contrarie.

Book of Acts, p. 64. [1573.] (*Clothier.*) (List of the XXIII & XLVIII who received back half their loan to the clothier.)

### CXC. *The Stewardship.*

Box 3 A, No. 4. [Dec. 1, 1573.] Copy of letters patent of Elizabeth making Henry Earl of Huntingdon, Receiver of the Honour of Lancaster in Leicester, etc., Steward or Town Clerk, an office vacant by the death of Sir Edward Hastings lord of Loughborough; to hold during pleasure: to have the profits of the issues of the honour.

### CXCI. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book II, p. 228. [Mar. 5, 1574.] *Anoyer comon hawle appoynted.* Item at this common hawl it was for dyuers considerations thought good to have another metinge or common hawle...for certen other busynes abowte the towne (etc.).

Ibid. p. 229. [Mar. 12, 1574.] *For the sale of Bugges howse.* (One of the comburgesses is permitted to buy his leasehold for £40. On receipt of the sum £33. 6s. 8d. to be paid to Will. Bradgate clothier in satisfaction of the sum of £100 lent in Mr Gillat's mayoralty: Bradgate must find sureties in £200 to repay the loan on Sep. 29, 1579 "according to the computacion of the church of England.")

*If the clothiar doe not tarrye [in] y<sup>e</sup> towne.* Provided further that if the said clothiar or his lafull deputye do not duringe the same tyme vse & execersyce clothinge within the said towne of Leicester or neyre thereunto adioyninge, whereby the pore maye be kept in the workes thereunto apperteyninge, or if that the said clothiar doe departe this presente lyef, whereby or by reason whercof the said trade of clothinge is not vsed & exersysed in the said towne of Leicester or neyre thereunto, so that the pore in the said towne of



Leycester cannot for the lacke or want thereof be sett & kept in worcke accordinge to the meaninge & first agrement as well of the right honorable Henrye Earle of Huntingdon Lord President of the citye of Yarle as also of the forsaid maior & comburgenses, that then the said somme of one hundred poundes<sup>1</sup> to be repayed ageyne to the said towne of Leycester within one quarter of one yeare next after eyther of the said departures or deathe as aforesaid.

*For thassurance of xs. by yere to be assured to the towne for xx nobles etc.* Furthermore hit is agreed att this common hawle that the twentie nobles<sup>2</sup> remayninge of the forsaid somme of xlii. shalbee delyucred and paid to thandes of Mr Tho. Stanford now maior to his ownlie vse, vpon consideracyon followinge—viz. That he the same Tho. Stanford or his heires shall before the feaste daye of St Michaell tharchangell next ensewinge the date of this comon hawle, make or cause to be made vnto the maior & comburgensies of the said towne of Leicester & their successors to thuse of the same towne, a good assuraunce & estate in the lawe in fee symple of a pece of ground to be worthe ten shillings by yeare, which pece of ground shalbe lyeinge within the said towne of Leycester or the subbarbes thereof, or els shall geve vnto the said towne of Leycester one annuyte or annuall rent of tenne shillings by yeare, to be yearelye paid owte of the nowe mansyon dwellinge howsse of the said Tho. Stanford in Leycester aforesaid: att the choyse & eleccion of the comburges of the same towne or the most parte of them.

Eight persons authorized by letter of attorney to "improve" the town land, by lease or sale, "for the most profit of the town."

Ibid. p. 231. [Mar. 29, 1574.] Note that the Chamberlains took peaceable seisin of T. Bugge's tenements and delivered the same to T. Bugge.

Ibid. p. 232. [May 8, 1574.] Arrangement to find two posthorses at an hour's warning. The charge is levied at 1s. 8d. each on the XXIII, 10d. each on the XLVIII, the rest on the commons; the 40s. remaining over to be paid towards the charges of the coals.

*Carriadge of Cooles.* Also it is agreed that the mayor & his bretherne shall for this presente yere paye xiid. apece towards the charges of the carriadge of cooles and the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> vid. apece towards the same vse.

*Buyldinge of a howse & repayringe of the Brigges.* Further hit is agreed by the forsaid maior his bretherne & the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> that towards the buyldinge & erectinge of a newe howse at thend of the Scoole howse, & also toward the repayringe of the Brigges, they the

<sup>1</sup> 100 nobles (in the margin).

<sup>2</sup> Noble = 6s. 8d. at this time.

said maior & comon burgences will geve iis. apece, and the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> xiid. apece.

*Surveyors of the said worke.* Also (4 named) are appoynted surveyors of the buyldinge & repayinge the Brigges aforesaid, vpon payne of euery one that doth refuce, to forfytt xs. which shall goe to the vse of the said Brigges etc.

### CXCII. *Duchy tenants toll-free.*

Box 7 A, No. 3. [May, 1574.] Elizabeth's inspeximus of a record making duchy tenants toll free, under conditions similar to No. LXXI. above.

### CXCIII. *Sale of Obit and Hospital Lands.*

Box 1 A, No. 519. [May 13, 1574.] Indenture between Queen Elizabeth and Robert Hayes and Stephen Harvy, Gents., witnessing that by the advice of the Council of the Duchy of Lancaster she lets to them to farm certain lands, etc. of late belonging to the Hospital of St John and St Leonard, and of the obits of John and Ric. Elvett, Alice Walter, Roger Fisshepike, John Bingham, Will. Bedall, John Charity and Will. Diatson, with a close called Malkins Close, and land in Welford, Gloucs., late of the obit of Roger Fishwike, late of the college of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Newark, Leicester, for a rent of £76.

(Duchy seal.)

### CXCIV. *Orphans' Goods.*

Hall Book II, p. 234. [July 28, 1574.] Memorandum that whereas one Deonys Sympson late of the towne of Leycester tanner nowe deceased, by his laste will & testament did geve & bequeith vnto Tho. Sympson, Helene Sympson, Arthur Sympson, John Sympson, & Will. Sympson his children twoe partes of his goodes, and the third parte to his wyfe (except to his said doughter xls. more then to y<sup>e</sup> reste), synce which tyme hit hathe pleased God to take vnto His mercye the said Will. Sympson; by reason of whose deathe, his parte is due & payable to the reasydue then lyvinge; and for that it is creadable informed to me Tho. Stanford maior, by John Tatam & Will. Norrys comburgenses there, that the inventorie of the goodes & cattells of the said Deonys was not onlie over cast by the wryter thereof, to y<sup>e</sup> value of fortie poundes, but also the wief of the same Deonys was so trobled with greate sycknes, by sides other losses in the tyme of her wydohode, that the said goodes will not accordinge to the said will satisfie the said children there parts, therefore yt is

thought good & is nowe agreed that the said children there partes shalbe certainlye appoynted & sett downe wot euery of them shall have in full satisfaction of there partes & porcions to them due by force of the said last will and testament of theire said father, whose partes and porcions are allotted & appoynted to these sommes followinge, scilicet, to (the 3 sons £24 each) and to Helene Sympson xxvi*li*. to be paid vnto them & euery of them at lawfull age, as the said will doth expresse. And if any of them nowe lyvinge doe happen to departe this lyef before the<sup>1</sup> come to the said lawfull age, then his or theire parte or porcion, so beinge deadd, to remayne & be paid to the others lyvinge.

CXCV. *School house built and lands let and sold.*

Hall Book II, p. 235. [1574.] In this yeare viz. the sixtenth yeare of the raign of our moste dradd soueraign ladye Quene Elizabeth was the Schole howse buylded & fynysched.

Item the same yeare was a newe howsse erected and buylded at the north ende of the same Schole howse, which howse is appoynted for the hedd schole master to dwell in, and thereunto is leade all the backe syde or yarde late beinge in the occupacon of one Johnson mason, payinge therefore yearelye to the chamber of the towne xxxs.

Also in this yeare was dyuers sales made of the towne land: the particulers thereof dothe at large appeyre in the greate Paper Boke<sup>2</sup> amongst the recordes. And also dyuers leases graunted for the towne of XXI<sup>ii</sup> yeres, which are likewise in the said Boke particularlye recorded etc.

CXCVI. *Dorothy Darell's dole.*

Hall Book II, p. 235. [Sept. 27, 1574.] Memorandum that the XXVII<sup>th</sup> daye of September anno supradicto, did come before Tho. Stanford maior, Will. Manbye, Rycherd Davye and Will. Norres coburgesses, and Rycharde Jackson of Leicester corveyors<sup>3</sup>, & one Nicholas Meverell of the same tanner, & then & there didd seale & delyuer two seuerall obligacions: wherein they stand bounden for the payment of xls. euery yere in the XXIII<sup>th</sup> daye of December, for the space of ten yeres next after the date hereof: which xls. is to be

<sup>1</sup> the = they.

<sup>2</sup> Book of Acts.

<sup>3</sup> shoemaker.

then distributed & gevon to xx<sup>ti</sup> pore people inhabitinge in Leycester, viz. to euery of them iis. & the said pore people to be appoynted by the maior for the tyme beinge & ii of the chefest burgeces. This gifte of xx*li*. was gevon by one Dorothee Dayrell wydoe deceased, the mother of Fraunces Saunders esquier; the forsaid two obligations dothe remeyne emongst the recordes for orphantes and by the same this gift is declared more at lardge etc.<sup>1</sup>

### CXCVII. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1573—4.] *Rents...Receipts...* Earle of Huntingdon towards the maintenance of the freeschole £10...Mr Sampson<sup>2</sup> towards the makinge of a howsse for the scholemaster £3. 6s. 8*d*....the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> towards the buylddinge of the scholehowse and repayringe of the Weaste Bridge 42s....(receipts for lands sold)...of the XXIII<sup>th</sup> towards the bringinge of coles from the pitts £3. 6s. 0*d*....weyvors<sup>3</sup> upon there ordynall 1s. 8*d*....the occupacions of ironmongars, cuttlars, and smythes upon there ordynall 4s. 2*d*....*Total* £230. 1s. 9½*d*.

...*Gyftes*...the ladie the Countis of Huntingdon Junior abowte allhalloetyde 18s. 8*d*....a yoke of oxon gevon to the olde Countis of Huntingdon £9....the yonger in Crosse weke<sup>4</sup>...the Earle...for sealinge of the indentures for the schole howsse 11s. 8*d*....Bisshopp of Lincolne...Sir Geo. Turpyn and Sir Rob. Lane...pursyvants at 2 severall tymes that broughte proclamacions to the towne 6s. 8*d*....my lorde of Darbie his bearewarde...lorde of Essex menne 19s. 9*d*....lorde of Leycester his playors more (etc.) 11s. 8*d*....lorde of Sussex playors more (etc.) 11s. 8*d*....

*Fees*...twelve menne for weytinge of Mr Mayor through the fayor ...commyssyon for the surveye of St Peters church 10s....foure noble mens bearewards more (etc.) 6s. 4*d*....a beame and skales to waye coles with 10s....willowes in the Cowe haye 20s....one elne of brode clothe to make Sponer<sup>5</sup> a cote 10s....one ounce and one angell<sup>6</sup> waighte of sylver for a consyance<sup>7</sup> for Sponer<sup>5</sup> 5s. 6*d*....goldesmythe 3s. ...waxe for to seale pasports 2*d*....Receyvour of the Dutchie for the second payment of the leade...of St Peters church £12. 10s....late chamberlyns that the toune was indebted to them...watchinge of a

<sup>1</sup> See on p. 245 of Hall Book II, a list of widows and others receiving 2s. each, and similar lists annually.

<sup>2</sup> Master of Wigston's Hospital.

<sup>4</sup> Rogation Week.

<sup>6</sup> the angel varied in value.

<sup>3</sup> weavers.

<sup>5</sup> beadle.

<sup>7</sup> cognizance, badge.

fellon...twoo harness<sup>1</sup> menne att Meydeye fayre 4*d*...locke for the coffer wherein the charters dothe lie...Sponer<sup>2</sup> in consytheracion of his travell for his often goinge emongest the tenaunts att the surveye of the towne lande 4*s*...chamberlyns att Nottingham att the assyces abowte the tounes busynes 14*s* 8*d*...carryenge a koyner of monye to Nottingham 5*s* 4*d*...

*Reparacions*...towards the buyldinge and repayringe of the bridges and the howsse for the scholemaster £11....paid more to Mr Mayor towards the schole howsse gevon by Mr Sampson £3. 6*s*. 8*d*. ...a stone wall in the olde hall to devyde the colle howsse from the pryson 17*s*. 10*d*....gathered of the XLVIII<sup>tie</sup> towards the schole howsse, coles and west bridge £3....repayringe of the elme tree in the markett place 8*s*. 8*d*....amercement for not pavinge the cawsie in Belgrave gate 10*d*....scholemasters howsse...pavinge a pece of common grounde within the Easte gate...to make piles at the Weast brydge...pavinge agaynste Gaynesborrowe chamber 1*s*. 4*d*....2 lodes of gravell and stone for the same 1*s*.

*Totall* £186. 14*s*. 6½*d*....de claro...£43. 7*s*. 3*d*.

#### CXCVIII. *Borough Ordinances.*

Hall Book II, p. 241. [Nov. 19, 1574.] (*Licensing Act.*) Att this common hawle or assemble of the Maior & his brethern named the coburgeses, hit was enacted agreed & concluded by the XXIII<sup>th</sup> and XLVIII<sup>th</sup> then & there assembled for and in the name of the wholl bodie of the said towne of Leycestre that no inhabitantes what soeuer that nowe doe or hereafter shall in theire howsses vse tiplinge and sellinge of ale or beare, shall not brewe the same of theare owne, but shall tunne in the same of the common brewars therefore appoynted; and non to be common brewars but suche as nowe doe vse the same, or hereafter shalbe thereunto admytted by the maior & certen of the moste auncientes coburgeses; and non of the said common brewars to sell, or by any weyse or meanes to tipples ale or beare by retayle viz. by the penyworthe or half penyworth; provided allweys and hit ys agreed, that hit shalbe lafull for anye to sell by the gallon accordinge to the assice and for all comon Inkepers to doe as before the makinge hereof they have done, and also for all other persons to brewe for there owne drinckinge & howsholdes as before they have done, but not to sell; vppon payne of euery person breakinge anye

<sup>1</sup> harness = armed.

<sup>2</sup> beadle.

of these poyntes to forfytt for euery defalte to thuse of the chamber of the towne of Leycester xxs. of good & laufull monye ; this acte to take effecte vpon the xxv<sup>th</sup> daye of Merche next. And for the better executinge hereof hit ys further agreed that the said Brewars shall togeyther become a fellowshipp & brotherhode & to have certen orders & decrees made emongst them by the consent of the Maior, before the said xxv<sup>th</sup> daye of Merche, and then emongeste them to appoynt wardyns & suche other offycers as shalbe nedefull, and the same to be ratyfyed & allowed from tyme to tyme, by the Maiors there etc.

(p. 242.) And also it is agreed at this common hawle that no person or persons whatsoeuer inhabitinge within this towne of Leycestre or the libertyes thereof shall not vse tiplinge or victuallinge in there howses (they feyre tymes onlye excepted) but onlye suche as be or hereafter shalbe thereunto admytted accordinge to the statute etc.

(*Nightwalkers.*) Also hyt ys agreed at this common hawle that the acte heretofore made for nyght walkers or suche persons as shalbe forthe of there owne howses or lodgings after the curfuer bell hathe ronge, shall stand in force & effect etc.<sup>1</sup>

(*Retailers licensed.*) Also att this common hawle hit ys condysended, concluded and agreed by the wholl assente, consente and agremente of the Mayor and his bretherne named the coburgeses and the XLVIII<sup>tie</sup> for and in the name of the wholl Bodye Polytique of the said towne of Leycester, that no manner of person or persons of what trade or occupacion soeuer theye be, or wheresoeuer theye doe or shall dwell owte of the forsaid towne of Leycester or subbarbes thereof (victulars onlie excepted) shall not within the said towne of Leycestre or liberties thereof, eyther of the markett dayes or anye other tymes (the fayres onlie excepted) sell, exchaunge, vtter or putt awaye by reytale or otherwise anye manner of ware or wares whatsoeuer, but onelye to suche persons as do sell the same ageyne by retayle inhabitinge within the said towne of Leycester, before suche tyme as he or theye have agreed with the Mayor and coburgeses of the said towne of Leycester for the tyme beinge for such libertie, and agree to paye suche fyne as then by them shalbe sessed.

<sup>1</sup> See above p. 73.

CXCIX. *Mr Harry Smyth of Oxford's dole.*

Hall Book II, p. 243. [Dec. 24, 1574.] *The Pore in Leicestre.* Memorandum that I Tho. Hallam maior of the towne of Leicester, Will. Manbye, John Eyricke, Rychard Darker and Rychard Davye & others of the coburgeses of the towne of Leycester doe acknowledge our selves to have receyved and hadd this vigill or evon of the natyvtye of Our Lorde God of Mr John Peiers<sup>1</sup> gent. deane of Christ his Church Oxen and doctor of Divinitye by the handes of Will. Deadycke our clarcke the somme of tenne poundes of lafull englishe monye wich was gevon to the Pore in Leycestre by one Mr Harrye Smyth of Christe his Church Oxen aforesaid.

[Dec. 25, 1574.] *The newe hospitall.* Memorandum that I Tho. Sampson gent. master of Will. Wigston his hospitall or pore howse in Leycester acknowledge myself this daye of the natyvitie of our Lorde God, to have receyved & had of Mr John Peires deane of Christ his Church in Oxen & doctor of Divinitye, by the handes of Will. Deadycke the maiores clarcke of Leycester the somme of xiiis. iiij*d.* gevon to the pore in the said howsse by one Mr Harrye Smythe of Christe his Church aforesaid.

*The olde hospitall.* Memorandum that I James Clarcke one of the Coburgeses of the towne of Leycester, deputye vnto John Page gent. master of the Pore howse or hospitall of the foundation of the Duke of Lancaster scituate in the Newarke<sup>2</sup> of Leycester, doe acknowledge myself to have receyved of John Peires gent. deane of Christe his Church in Oxen & doctor of divynitye, by the handes of Will. Deadycke the maiores clarcke of Leycester the somme of fyve marckes gevon to the Pore in the said howsse by one master Harrye Smythe of Christe his Church aforesaid etc.

Hall Papers I, 3. Names of the poor that had relief given of the money that came from Oxford given Dec. 24; the names are mostly those of women at 4*d.* each: 13. was given to a labourer to buy tools. There is another list of the distribution on Jan. 5, 1575, Jan. 28, March 6, March 11, and similar lists annually, with gifts at the Mayor's request, and for Ap. 1575 a list of Aldermen receiving grants for the poor of their wards.

CC. *Borough Ordinances.*

Hall Book II, p. 244. [Feb. 25, 1575.] *One townesman shall not sewe anoyer before Lycense had.* Also at this common hawle hit ys agreed by the wholl companye there assembled for & in the name of the wholl bodye of the said towne, that non of the inhabitantes of the same towne shall sewe one another for any cawse or matter, but the

<sup>1</sup> John Piers, successively bishop of Rochester and Salisbury.

<sup>2</sup> Trinity Hospital.

partie greved to compleyne hym to the maior for the tyme beinge or to the alderman of the warde where the defendant dothe dwell, of his cawse or grefe, who shall uppon the complent send for the defendant, and then if they can, to take order with them, and agree them withoute sute of lawe, and if the said maior or alderman can not indifferently agree the partyes, accordinge to the equitye of the cawse, then the partie greved to demaunde lycense of the maior to take his remydye by order of lawe, as he maye within the Corte of portymote holden before the said maior & coburgenses. And every person that shall herein do contrarye, to forfytt to the chamber of this towne the somme of vis. vii<sup>id</sup>. for every defalt of lafull monye of England.

(p. 245.) *No straungers admitted free men under vli.* Also yt is further agreed by the forsaid mayor & coburgenses & the reste there assembled for & in the name of the wholl bodye of the said towne that no straungers shall not att any tyme after the daye of the holdinge of this common hawle bee admytted a free man of the said towne, nor suffered to occupie his trade or occupacion within this towne or the liberties thereof before suche tyme as he hath offered hymself before the mayor & chamberlyns for the tyme beinge, and then or att suche reasonable tyme as shalbe vnto hym appoynted, if theye shall so thincke good to accepte of hym, to paye the somme of vli. The Ordynall for all occupacions to stande in as good force to all intentes and purpoces as heretofore they have don.

*Non to take any straungers to be there tenants vpon payne of vis. vii<sup>id</sup>.* Whereas att a common hawle holden within the towne of Leycester the XXI<sup>th</sup> daye of Februarie in the IX<sup>th</sup> yeare of the raigne<sup>1</sup> of our soueraigne ladye the Quenes majestie that now is before Mr John Tatam the Mayor & others the comburgenses named the XXIII<sup>tie</sup> and the XLVIII<sup>tie</sup> then & theare assocyeate for & in the name of the wholl bodie of the said towne of Leycester, hit was then & theare by their mutuall consentes and agrementes condyssended, concluded, & agreed, that no manner of person or persons havinge landes tenementes or heredytamentes within the towne of Leycester or the suburbes of the same, shall take vppon hym or them to retayne or putt into any of their howses or tenementes within the fraunchises of the same towne of Leycester any manner of person or persons to be theare tenants before he or theye have presented suche forren person or persons before Mr Mayor for the tyme beinge, and the alderman of the warde wheare any suche parson or parsons shall inhabyte, to be examyned from whence he commethe and what honeste behavoyr suche forren

<sup>1</sup> See above p. 118, Feb. 21, 1567.



person or persons be of, vppon peyne of vis. vii<sup>id</sup>. for everie defalt, to be paid by the oweners of the howses. For the better executinge of the same acte or statute hit is nowe att this common hawle holden the xxv<sup>th</sup> daye of Februarie in the xvii<sup>th</sup> yeare of the raigne of our said soueraigne ladye the Quenes maiestie that now is, before Mr Tho. Hallam mayor & others named the xxiiii<sup>tie</sup> and xlvi<sup>tie</sup> for & in the name of the holl bodye of the said towne condyssended & agreed that yearlie in everie warde within the said towne of Leycester there shalbe by the Mayor for the tyme beinge two suche honeste & discrete persons appoynted as have not landes nor tenementes of their owne, to make searche once in everie monthe within their severall wardes yf theye doe fynde any doinge contrarie to this forsaid acte. And also yf theye fiende any others contrarie to a statute made by our soueraigne ladye the Quenes maiestie that is, that non shall tarrie or be suffered to dwell in any towne but where theye were borne or laste dwelt by the space of three yeares, and also to see that there be not above one tenante in one howsse: euerye landelorde that hathe his howsse founde to the contrarie to forfyt for euerye defalte vis. vii<sup>id</sup>. The said serchers to make monthelye there presentement thereof to the mayor vpon the like peyne etc.

p. 246. *Monye paid to Mr John Stanford for his sute ageynst Nottingham.* Memorandum at this common hawle there was alowed vnto Mr John Stanford for the chargies past for the sewte betwene this towne of Leycester & the towne of Nottingham for the payinge of tole<sup>1</sup> the somme of xviii<sup>li</sup>. iis. vi<sup>d</sup>. over & besydes fyve poundes wich he recovered of the said towne for charges by sute of lawe, for & in consideracion of wich somme he the said John Stanford saithe this towne of Leycester shall there goe tole free, & further at this hall he hathe promysed to paye all other chargies that shall hereafter happen by sute of lawe betwene them & this towne of Leycester for the said tole, of his owne chargies.

*Mr Moore dismissed of y<sup>e</sup> companye of the xxiiii<sup>ti</sup>.* Firste att this common hall vppon the assemble of the said xxiiii<sup>tie</sup> & xlvi<sup>tie</sup> Mr Moore by the name of John Mooare then beinge one of the companye of the xxiiii<sup>tie</sup> was (for dyuers cawses there objected agaynste hym) dismyssed of the said companye and cownsell of the towne.

*Rob. Eyricke appoynted one of the companye of the xxiiii<sup>ti</sup>.* Also att the same common hall was called by the wholl consente thereof to the cowncell of the towne to be one of the xxiiii<sup>tie</sup> one Mr Eyricke by the name of Rob. Eyricke who than & there tooke his othe

<sup>1</sup> See above p. 137, note 4.

accordinge to the order, and so was appoynted one of the mayors bretherne and his name recorded accordinglie.

*For poste horses.* Further att the same common hall it was for dyuers causes thoughte good & mete for the service of the Prince<sup>1</sup> to have att the charges of the towne certen poste horses kepte (etc.).

*Provyion in case y<sup>e</sup> Queens maiestie doe come, for a stocke of monye & repayringe y<sup>e</sup> towne.* Also hit is further agreed att this common hall for that hit is supposed the Quenes maiestie is determynd (God so willinge) to come to the towne of Leycester this somer, and for that the towne dothe not onlie lacke a stocke of monye but also is in greatt dekeye, which is to be redressed, therefore hit is ordered, condissended, concluded, & agreed in the manner & forme followeing, that is to saye as well for a stocke of monye, repayringe of the towne, as also an order for apparell to be then worne by the mayor & his bretherne (p. 250) and the XLVIII<sup>tie</sup>. Firste for a stocke of monye the mayor & his bretherne to paye to the chamber of the Towne of Leycester xls. a pece and the XLVIII<sup>tie</sup> xxxs. a pece, the whiche sommes & euery of them to be paid by the said parties to the chamberlayne uppon one fortnyttes warnynge to be to them gevon, upon the comynge of our said souerayne Ladie the Queens maiestie etc.

*Scarlett gownes & other gownes.* Also the mayor & all them that have bene mayors to weare & to mete her majestie in scarlett gownes, & the reste of that companye to weare blacke gownes, & euerie of them to be made of a newe, desente & comlye fasshyon.

*Other apparell.* Also the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> att that presente likewise to weare cootes of fyne blacke clothe, & to be garded with velvitt, & to mete her majestie on horssbacke.

*Other orders for the repayringe of howses.* And also that euerie howsholder as well within the Towne as the liberties thereof doe presentlye and forthewithe, repayre, amende & bewtifie the forparte or forfruntt of all & euerie there howses, and also doe amende or cawse to be made and amended the paymentes & cawses<sup>2</sup> belonging to theire howses, & this to be don att the commandemente and seiyhte of the Aldorman of everie warde att the furthest within one fortnyte after Whitsontide next.

*Gownes for the Sergiantes evry third yeare.* And further hit is at this presente common hall ordeyned enacted and established for ever to endure, that from hensforthe the sergiantes of the said Towne of Leycester shall have everie third yere allowed unto them & to evrie of them owtt of the chamber of the said Towne of Leycester for and

<sup>1</sup> i.e. the Queen.

<sup>2</sup> pavements and causeways.

towards the buyinge of them gownes, the somme of xxx. apece, and the same to be paid by the Chamberlaynes of the said Towne of Leycester, or by one of them fore the tyme beinge: which consideration towards gownes is alowed unto them for and uppon there good and dilligente attendance uppon the mayor for the tyme beinge, and his successors. And this yere to beggyne.

*Fees to be payed to the maior his clarcke.* And also it is further ordeyned, enacted, establisshed and agreed uppon, for the better mayntenance of the Clarcke, viz. the mayor his clarcke his lyveinge, that from hensforthe euerie one that shalbe elected, called, chossen and appoynted to the worshipfull companye of the xxiiii<sup>tie</sup> viz.: of the Companye of the Mayors Bretherne and Cownsell of the Towne of Leycester shall gyve unto hym for the ministringe of there othe and recordinge of there name the somme of xii*d*. And euerie one that shalbe called & chosen to the companie of the xlviii<sup>tie</sup> to geve & paye also to the mayors Clarcke for recordinge of his name vi*d*. And euerie other person whatsoever, when he shalbe made free of the Chapmans Gilde to geve and paye to the Maiors Clarcke for his othe and recordinge his name vi*d*., over & besides for euerie one that is his fathers eldeste son to thee maior for the tyme beinge one pottel of wyne. And also euerie person that shalbe made free of anye occupacion by force of theire Ordynall to geve and paye likewise to the Maiors Clarcke for the mynistringe of the othe and recordinge of his name vi*d*.

Ibid. p. 251. *James Ellis appointed one othe Maiors bretherne.* Memorandum att the Queenes Majesties Courte of Portimote holden within the Towne of Leicester before Thomas Hallam Maior, John Eyricke, Richard Daye, James Clarcke, John Stanford, William Moreton & Robert Eyricke Coburgesses of the said Towne of Leycester, one James Ellys draper one of the companye of the xlviii<sup>tie</sup> was called before the said Maior & coburgesses: and then and there in the open Corte was made & appointed one of the xxiiii<sup>tie</sup>: viz. one of the Maior his Bretherne, and thereuppon accordyne to the order toke his othe & so paid the fees to the officers: scilicet to the Maiors Clarcke xii*d*. to the Maiors Sergiante vis. viii*d*.

Ibid. [July 2, 1575.] (*A tempest.*) †Memorandum that of Sayturdaie the seconde of Julie 1575 in the afternone of the same daye fell within this towne of Leicester vppon the sudden a verrie greate reyne with marvelous thunderinge & tempeste in suche sort as the like was never sene, which contynued the space of iiii or v owers: the same rayne so veamentlie that the stretes stode full of water<sup>1</sup>.‡

<sup>1</sup> Cf. Stow, who alludes to the storm of 1562, Throsby, p. 92.

Ibid. [July 9, 1575.] (*Gift for coals.*) Memorandum this Sayturdaye the IX<sup>th</sup> of July 1575 : Received of William Cater *vili.* gevon by the Earle of Huntingdon to bye coles for the pore in Leycester.

Ibid. p. 252. [July 18, 1575.] (*Recorder.*) (Names of the Mayor and brethren present at the "common or towne hall" at the ministering of the oath to Mr Perkyns then appointed Recorder, 10 names.)

CCI. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1574—5.] *Rents...Reccipts...* of T. S. the eldeste childe of D. S. deceased for the safe kepinge of his childes parte<sup>1</sup> 3s. 4d....tayllors for forfittes due uppon theire ordynall...monye received for fynes viz....for the laste paymente...wardyns of the occupacion of glovers uppon theire ordynall...

*The totall somme...* £134. 2s. 7½d.

*Gyfts...* Mistris Meyris and her systers for a presente by them gyvon to the Ladye Hastings of Loughborowe...bearewards att Mr Mayors dynner more (etc.) 12s. 6d....the Lady Throgmorton...Recordour of Nottingham...players that cam owte of Wales more (etc.) 5s....Lorde Harbards<sup>2</sup> players more (etc.) 5s....the Judges...the Justices...Mr Leaver the preacher 2s. 4d....Counties of Huntingdon thelder... Sir Geo. Turpyn and the Justices...the preachers att Mr Mayors... one that brought a commyssyon for artillerye...wyne and sugar bestoed of twoe of the Q. Majesties pursyvantes when they cam to vewe the towne and a place agaynste her commynge then supposed... the same in reward by the commandement of Mr Mayor and certen of his Bretheren 10s....my lorde of Mountague his playars 5s....sacke ...to Sir Geo. Turpyn then sheriff att the laste assyces...Mr F. Hastings and others the commyssioners at the Blewe Bore...Mr Jones his man for bringinge of a doe that the olde Countys gave to Mr Mayor and his bretheren...Earle of Sussex his players more (etc.) 5s. 4d....Earle of Warrwick his players more (etc.) 5s....

*Fees...* Mr Braham late Recordour for his fee for three quarters of a yeare £3...clarcke of the peace...Mayor's clarcke...the harefynders<sup>3</sup> at Wheston Courte 1s....hyar of a horse to Thedingworthe abowte the annuytie gevon to the Schoole...to carte a woman abowte the towne...harneste men for weytinge of Mr Mayor att our Ladye Daye fayre...twoe poore men that was in the hall to helpe them owte of the towne...the one half of the charge att Loughborowe att the metinge

<sup>1</sup> Under the act for orphans' goods, p. 104 above.

<sup>2</sup> ? for Herbert. See the reference to Mr Hibbatt's players on p. 114.

<sup>3</sup> Cf. *Much Ado*, "Cupid is a good hare-finder."

of the Mayor, Recordour and Burgeses of Nottingham abowte the contraversie for payeing of tole £1. 12s. 6d....eatinge of the venyson gevon by Mr Stokes 16s. 11d....to Spooner<sup>1</sup> for fetchinge of one from Loughborowe that was to make his apparaunce att the assyces for suspeccion of felonye...Spooners for burnynge of heyringes three tymes in Lente...wood to burne the said heyrings...the Burneman<sup>2</sup> for his horse and carte abowte the markett with rogues and for whippinge of them...chargies for a Beadelym<sup>3</sup> woman that was stejde in the towne att May Day fayre 1s. 4d....paid for her chargies to Quarne for the tryall of words by her spoken to Mr Mayor and the Justices...clothe for gownes geven to the foure sergions<sup>4</sup> £4...Mr Yelvarton<sup>5</sup> the lawyere for cowncell in the behalfe of the towne...to a pore woman for dressinge upp the hall parler and other places att the towne hall att severall tymes...paid more then was gaythered towards the chargies att the eatinge of venyson that the Earle of Huntingdon did geve to the towne 41s. 8d....gildinge of the mace anewe...formes for the schoole howsse chamber...goinge to Bunnye for the Recordour...burnynge of corrupte fyshe viz. heyrings and scate 2d....Master Davye when he wente to the Cowncell abowte Sheyfeeld<sup>6</sup>...paid to the bayliff of Leycester for a mercyment for lacke of a payre of stocks att the Crosse called Barrell Crosse nere Gallowetree gate 5s....draweing of this accompte in paper and for ingrosinge of the same...a newe rental...

*Reparacions*...for cleye and for shotinge<sup>7</sup> the schoole howsse florethe 10s....a dogge of iron...twoe roodes and q<sup>r</sup> of sclatinge 16s....

*The totall somme*...£84. 18s. 8d....so there remeyneth de claro...£49. 4s. 0d.

(Followed by a note of other sums owing for fines on leases, and dues by obligation, Mr Bradgate the clothier's debt, the town's salt in keeping of the Mayor, the grant of 40s. from the Stewards of the Fairs to be used to buy, for the use of the chamber, leather buckets, hooks of iron and leathers "to bee in a readynes for dowte of anye casualtye of fyre from the which God defend the same towne." Note of the new rental, to be delivered yearly to the new chamberlains.)

<sup>1</sup> beadle.

<sup>2</sup> carrier of barn, or water for brewers.

<sup>3</sup> Bedlam.

<sup>4</sup> sergeants.

<sup>5</sup> Christopher Yelverton, at this time Recorder of Nottingham, reader at Gray's Inn, later a judge.

<sup>6</sup> Ric. Sheffield was summoned before the Council for seditious words. He claimed to be the son of Henry VIII and was believed to be mad. Dasent, *Acts of the Privy Council* 1575, Sep. 11.

<sup>7</sup> levelling, see *Nottingham Records* III. Glossary.

CCII. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book II, p. 259. [Nov. 1575.] *Assisa servicie.* And also that those which doe off tiplinge of ale or beare in there howses and dothe brewe the same themselves, which is called strounge ale or beare, shall not sell the same above *iiid.* the gallon, and so likewise after that rate by the pennyworthe and half pennyworthe uppon payne of *iiis. iiid.* for euery defalte.—And theye nor anye of them shall not denye to sell the same so forthe of there howses to them that shall so sende for hit, uppon payne of *iiis. iiid.*

*For nighte walkers.* Memorandum that the acte for nighte walkers<sup>1</sup> is nowe at this Common Hawle appoynted to stande in force and to be executed accordingle.

*An Acte agaynste Tiplynge or drinkeinge.* Also the acte, which was made by Mr Richard Daye in the tyme of his meraltie in the sixte yeare of our soveraigne Ladie the Queenes majestie that nowe is, called an acte agaynste typlinge and drynckinge in common ale howses & typlinge howses<sup>2</sup>, ys nowe att this Common Hawle revyved and appoynted to stande in force and effects in all poyntes etc.

*The Acte for Pavinge*<sup>3</sup>: to be put in ure<sup>4</sup> and force for the paying of all the streets in Leycester. And the Alderman of euery warde to see his warde paved accordingle, and the same to be done by the charge of the lande lorde or tenante. (p. 260) All the common grounde to be amended by the Chamberlaynes att the chargies of the Towne.

*For wood lienge in the Streetes.* Also that there shall non suffer no wood nor tymber to lye agaynste there howses nor under there eves in any the streetes etc.—And theye that nowe have anye so lyeinge shall rydd the same away before our Ladie Daye next etc. uppon payne of losinge of all suche wood: the same to goe towarde the pavinge of the streetes etc.

*For cominge to the Sarmondes.* Item it is agreed that there shall uppon euerye Wensdaye and euerie Frydaye in the weeke come to the Church of St Martins to the sarmond twoe or one att the leaste of euerye howseholde within this towne and subbarbes uppon payne of *xiiid.* for euerye defalte, to the vse of the poore etc.

*Ibid.* p. 264. [March 16, 1576.] *For Bucketts of Leyther.* Nota: att this Common Hawle hit was agreed to have *xxiiij<sup>tie</sup>* leyther bucketts, att the chardges of the *xxiiii<sup>tre</sup>* and the *xlviij<sup>tie</sup>*, that is to

<sup>1</sup> See above, p. 73.<sup>2</sup> p. 108.<sup>3</sup> pp. 101, 130.<sup>4</sup> ure=use.

saye twoe of the XXIII<sup>tie</sup> to a buckett, and foure of the XLVIII<sup>tie</sup> to a buckytt—the maior & his bretherne to paye xvi<sup>d</sup>. a pece, and the XLVIII<sup>tie</sup> to paye viii<sup>d</sup>. a pece.

*For the amendinge of the common wayes.* Also hit is agreed for the better repayringe & amendinge of the common wayes in and abowte the towne of Leycester and the liberties thereof, that the inhabitants of the same towne and liberties shall [in] euerye warde by the commandement of the Maior for the tyme beinge or by the Chamberlaynes there, or by commandement from the Maior, att theire coste and chardgies fyend and appoynte one good sufficyente and able person, which shall for one whole daye bestoe theire labore by the appoyntement of the said Mayor & Chamberlyne in gaytheringe of stones, fetchinge & gaytheringe of the same and also in diginge & carryeing of sonde to be bestoed onelye to the vse of the repayringe and mendinge of all suche common wayes and payvements as the Chamber of the towne of Leycester is to be chardged with all, vppon payne of the master of euerye howsse or howshold doinge the contrarie to forfitt for euerye tyme xii<sup>d</sup>. this acte to contynue durence the pleasure of the Mayor and commons of the towne of Leycester.

*Towchinge y<sup>e</sup> charge of Master John Stanford one of the burges of y<sup>e</sup> parliament.* Also whereas Mr John Stanford was and is one of the Burgeses of the Parliament for this towne of Leycester: the which hathe byn to his greatt chardges: and as yett unconsidered for the same: Hyt is now att this common hawle agreed, that uppon the makeinge of (p. 265) his bill for the same he shalbe alowed owte of the stocke of the Chamber of the Towne of Leycester suche reasonable consideracion as by lawe he oughte in that case to haue & by his conscyence he shall thinke sufficyente.

*Touching the fellingge of a tree, and settinge of younge plants.* Also whereas there hathe byn some controversie betwene the Counsellors & Auditors of the Towne of Leycester, & one Master Hallam one of the same Companye, consernynge the fellingge of a certen ashe tree standinge in a close of the said townes and nowe in his holdinge by indenture: The which tree the said Mr Hallam did fell & take to his owne use contrarie to the tenor of his lease: Wherefore yt is nowe by the common consente of the same hawle agreed that for and in consideracion of the same tree, the same Mr Hallam shall sett or cause to be sett ten settes<sup>1</sup> of ashe in uppon or abowte suche parte of the same close as shalbe most conveyente for the same, or els so manye as shalbe thoughte conveyente for the same groundes: over and above

<sup>1</sup> slips, young plants.

those he is bounde to doe and to sett by his lease. And the same settis to be sett att seasonable tymes in the yeare, and the same shall norrishe from tyme to tyme to the beste of his power.

Also it is agreed the skynner shall paye for his fredome.

Ibid. [May 14, 1576.] *The Constable of Mr John Stanfords warde, appoynted and sworn.* Memorandum that of Mondaye the xiiii<sup>th</sup> of Maye Harrye Molde, corveysor, ys nowe appoynted Constable for the warde of Mr John Stanford, viz. from the Heighe Crosse to the Southe gate.

(*Frith borh.*) Memorandum that of Wednesday the xxx<sup>th</sup> of Maye Will<sup>m</sup> Bawle cutler ys appoynted the third barrowe of Mr John Stanfords warde: and nowe sworne.

*For two fiftenes and one subsidie, payable at twise.* Memorandum that this yeare within writton there was graunted to our sovereign Ladie the Queens majestie by Acte of Parliament holden at Westminster by prorogation the viii<sup>th</sup> daye of Februarie laste paste, two fiftenes and one subsidye: viz. the firste payment of the xv<sup>th</sup> to be paid to her heighnes in the recepte of her Exchequer before the iiii<sup>th</sup> of June. And the second payment of the said xv<sup>th</sup> to be likewise paid to her heighnes before the tenth daye of May in A.D. 1577. The subsidye to be paid att ii severall tymes, the first payment xx*d.* the pound goods, and ii*s.* viii*d.* the pounce landes: the said firste payment of the subsidye to be paid to the Queen's majesty in the receipt of her Exchequer, before the xii<sup>th</sup> of October next. And the seconde payment of the subsidye, viz. xii*d.* the *li.* goods, and xvi*d.* the pounce landes, to be paid before the xx<sup>th</sup> of November in A.D. 1577.

And for the payment of the firste xv<sup>th</sup> Thomas Clarke was appoynted Collector, the which xv<sup>th</sup> is xx*i.* li. xiii*s.* the which the said Mr Clarke collector paid accordingly.

Robert Braham }  
John Standford } gen. } Burgeses of the same parliament.

Ibid. p. 267. [June 25, 1576.] *Mr Nixe licensed to take his leave of the Companye of the XXIII<sup>tie</sup> and William Ludlam appoynted in his place.* Imprimis at this common hawle, Mr Nixe by the name of Symon Nixe, one of the Maiors bretherne, by his earnest sewte was dismissed of the same Companye. And in his stede was then chosen to bee one of the Maiors bretherne William Ludlam, and there uppon accordinge to the order toke his othe, and paid his fees to the officers: viz. to the Maiors clarcke for ministringe the othe and recordinge his name xii*d.* And to the mace bearers vis. viii*d.*

*Ric. Orton one of the XLVIII<sup>tie</sup>.* Also at this present was Richard



Orton conveyors appointed one of the companye of the XLVIII<sup>tie</sup>, and paid to the clerke for the recordinge of his name *vid.*

(*Queen's coming.*) Item for that it is supposed of the Queens majestie comynge to Leicester this sommer, and presentlye it is agreed for a stocke of monye, as was agreed at a Common Hawle holden the 29 of April in Anno xvii<sup>o</sup> Eliz. Reg. in the time of the meyraltie of Mr Hallam—viz. the XXIII<sup>tie</sup> fortye shillings a pece and the XLVIII<sup>tie</sup> xxs.: the said seuerall sommes to be paid to the handes of the Chamberlayns to the use of the towne, before the viii<sup>th</sup> of Julye next, uppon payne of doblinge the somme demanded and not payde<sup>1</sup>.

[*Apparel of XXIII.*] Item whot apparell the Maior and his bretherne and the XLVIII<sup>tie</sup> shall were. Hit is agreed and appoynted as followeth—viz. the Mayore and they that have byn mayors to were skarlett gownes, and the reste of the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> to were fync blacke gownes, and to mete her maiestie on horsebacke with footecloths<sup>2</sup>, savinge there dutye to her heighnes, and euery one of them to have there footeman.

[*Of XLVIII.*] Item wott apparell and in wott order the XLVIII<sup>tie</sup> shall then weare and geve there attendante. Hit is also ordered and agreed, that the chamberlaynes and all they that have byn chamberlyns to ryde in cootes of fync blacke clothe garded with velvytt, and the rest with billyment<sup>3</sup> lace.

Ibid. p. 268. A breef note or remembrance of the armor remeynynge in the towne hall in the tyme of the meyraltie of Mr Richard Daye Anno infrascripto, then Chamberlyns Christopher Alisander and Richard Archer.

Firste, tenne wholl and good corseletts, lackinge but one to one borgent<sup>4</sup>.

Item one horsmans armor.

Item xx<sup>ti</sup> Allman Revetts, with hedpeces, iij of them skulles, gorgetts and splents<sup>5</sup>. Lackinge iij hedpeces, one peyre of splents, ii gorgettes of male and ii peyre of (blank).

Item xvi<sup>tene</sup> Sheifs of Arrowes.

Item ten blacke<sup>6</sup> bills.

Item ten pikes, wherof one lacks a hed.

Item xvi swordes.

<sup>1</sup> In the margin a note: "this not executed for that her majesty cam not as it was supposed."

<sup>2</sup> horse-trappings.

<sup>3</sup> ornamental lace, see *N.E.D.* s.v. biliment lace.

<sup>4</sup> burgonet, a pikeman's light casque, *N.E.D.*

<sup>5</sup> See notes above, p. 56.

<sup>6</sup> See *N.E.D.* s.v. bill 2.

Item xi daggers and xii girdles.

Item ii brasers<sup>1</sup> and ii shewtinge gloves.

Item iiii lynings for borgenets<sup>2</sup>.

CCIII. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1575—6.] *Rents...Receipts...*bruars for forfitts as followeth, viz. receyved of Mr Thos. Clarke for that his wief sold ale contrarye to thassyce...of Master Bishopp<sup>3</sup> his scollors and the reste of the scollors of the same scoole towards the repayre of the same schole 36s. 4*d*....Roger Bramley gent. deputye receyvour of the Dutchie of Lancaster towards the reparacions of Gaynesborowe chamber 33s. 6*d*....wardyns for the upsettinge of H. W. weyvour whoe was prentys in this towne 1s. 8*d*....stonne to hym sold called the Berehill<sup>4</sup> alias Barrell Crosse 11s....old wood of the broken cage...occupacion of sharmen<sup>5</sup> for the upsettinge of E. O. sharman 20s.

*The totall somme...*£136. 1s. 8½*d*.

*Gyftes...*a pursyvante that brought a commission for the adorningement of the parliament ..wyne, sugar, biskittes and carroweys to the Countys of Huntingdon the yonger...capons...woodcockes...chickyns ...a dosson of snypes and a fat swanne...to therle...certain bearewardes more (etc.) viz. the Q. Majesties, the Earle of Leicesters, the Erle of Huntingdons and the Lord Vawces<sup>6</sup> 23s....one of her highnes messengers...who broughte a previe seale ageynste Mr Mayor for that the burgeses of parliament did not make certyficate of the name of the collector of the xv<sup>th</sup> and tenth...Erle of Wuster<sup>7</sup> his playars 10s. ...secke...to Mr Goodeyere...Mr Nic. Harwar...two of the Q. Majesties servantes that surveyed the towne this somer ageynst H. M.'s comynge then supposed 10s....Mr Frear one of H. M.'s purveyors of her buttrye...a fatt veale, a mutton, a lam...capons...chickyns...wyne to the Earle of Huntingdon...pursyvant that brought proclamacion for the sale of wyne...therle of Bedford...therle of Essex his players....

*Fees...*for pentinge<sup>8</sup> 2 papers for the cosoners<sup>9</sup> that were sett on the pillorye 8*d*....woode for the burninge of rotton mutton att severall tymes...a boxe to put wrytings in at the hawl 6*d*....for the firste payment of the xv<sup>th</sup> more then was geythered in the towne to make upp the wholl payment 17s. 4*d*....bordes for the Quenes armes...settinge forth of H. M.'s armes in golde and colors upon those bordes

<sup>1</sup> wristguard.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 165, n. 3.

<sup>3</sup> schoolmaster.

<sup>4</sup> See i. 308, note 2.

<sup>5</sup> cloth-shearers.

<sup>6</sup> Vaux.

<sup>7</sup> Worcester.

<sup>8</sup> painting.

<sup>9</sup> cheats, impostors.

and i of the scool...£4...a pece of wood to sett on the horsemans armour 1s...the venyson eytinge that was gevon to Mr Mayor and his bretherne by therle of Huntingdon more then was geithered over and besides Mr Mayor his 10s., his bretherne 1s. 4*d.* a pece, and of theym that had byn chamberlyns 8*d.* a pece, 28s. 8*d.*...gevon to Will. Deathicke<sup>1</sup> by the apoyntement of Mr Mayor, Mr Recorder and others of the bretherne for the writinge of 5 obligacions wherein the serchers and scalers of leyther for that yeare stand bounden to the Q. majesty for the better executinge of there offyce accordinge to the statute and accordinge to the Counsellis lettre<sup>2</sup> 2s...for 30 leither buckettes, 4 greate hookes of yron and one greate leyther, more then was geythered by the Stuardes of the fayres 27s. 4*d.*...fillinge upp of the gravel pitt in Belgrave gate.. alowed unto Mr John Stanford nowe Mr Mayor for his chargies at the parliaments beinge one of the burgeses of this towne, the which allowance was agreed upon at a comon hawle...the some of (blank).

*Reparacions*...at the schole howsse viz. makinge of deskes and seates in the chamber for the schollours...stockes at Barwell<sup>3</sup> Crosse pavinge 320 yards at the neyther ende of the myddle causye in Belgrave gate...ston and gravell...at the four gates...heare<sup>4</sup> and nayles ...3 beademen<sup>5</sup> for gettinge ston and gravell at the Newarcke...to mend a weye in Galtree gate...schoolmaster his howsse...for a bunche of lathes 8*d.* for i crest 2*d.*...a workeman and a server...pavinge at the Beare hill where the crosse was...

*Totall somme*...£90. 7s. 7*d.*...remayneth...£45. 14s. 1½*d.*

(List of debts and note of the salt and rentall<sup>6</sup>.)

#### CCIV. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book 11, p. 273. [Nov. 23, 1576.] (*Apparel.*) Order for Mayors and Ex-Mayors to wear scarlet of their own providing.

Waits to have gowns provided for them before Christmas.

Ibid. p. 277. [March 1, 1577.] *For the pore.* Item yt is agreed that they Maiors bretherne viz. XXIII<sup>ti</sup> to paye iiiid. a pece weekelye and the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> iid. a pece weekelye towards the collection and relefe for the poore. And the reste of the inhabitants within euery parishe, to bee sessed accordinge there habillityes and callings, for the relefe of the same poore, etc.

<sup>1</sup> Mayor's clerk.

<sup>2</sup> Not among the Records of the Privy Council ed. Dasent.

<sup>3</sup> Barrel, Berchill.

<sup>4</sup> hair, horsehair, used in plastering.

<sup>5</sup> almsmen.

<sup>6</sup> And so annually hereafter.

[May 10, 1577.] *For y<sup>e</sup> markett howse or crosse.* Also hit is further agreed that there shalbee in the Heighe Street a crosse or markett howsse, to be new made, erected and builded this somere.

CCV. *Commission for Musters.*

Box 1 A, No. 558. [May 31, 1577.] Latin letters patent of Elizabeth to Henry Lord Crumwell, the Mayor of Leicester, Geo. Hastings, Geo. Turpyn, knights, Adrian Stokes Esq., Will. Manby and Tho. Sandford burgesses, appointing them commissioners for musters (as in No. CLXXXV above). A general direction in English from the Council is enclosed, as above No. CLXXXV.

(Great seal attached.)

CCVI. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book II, p. 279. [June 12, 1577.] (*Dismissed from the Company.*) Firste in this Common Haul Mr Wilne alias John Willne, one of the wurshipfull companye of the XXIIII<sup>ti</sup> viz. one of the Maiors brether, made his humble sute vnto the Maior and the residue of his bretherne there assosiate: and prayed them he might be discharged of that Companye, who by reason of suche allegations as he then vnto them shoed was dismissed of the said companye.

(*Election to the Company.*) Also at this present by the moost voyces of the Meyres bretherne, John Wilcockes was chosen to bee one of the worshipfull Companye of the XXIIII<sup>ti</sup>, viz. one of the Maiors Bretherne and received his othe accordinglye. Juratus. xiiid.<sup>1</sup>

(*The XLVIII.*) Also at this present by the forsaid Mr Maior were dismissed of the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> these persones viz. William Woodland and William Roodes.

And also at this common haul was appoynted to the Companye of the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> these persons: viz. Thomas Close and John Woodford whoe made there present apparance at the same haul and payd for the enrolringe (*sic*) of there names either of them *vid.*

(*Musters.*) Also whereas this towne of Leicester is by the Quenes majesties and the Counsells lettres charged to have ten able and fitt persons in a readiness for her Heighnes service, to be furnisshed with calivers, flasks<sup>2</sup>, tuchboxes<sup>3</sup>, morions<sup>4</sup>, swords and daggers etc. And

<sup>1</sup> sworn, and 15. paid for enrolment.

<sup>3</sup> boxes containing powder for priming matchlocks.

<sup>2</sup> flasks for gunpowder.

<sup>4</sup> light head-pieces.

also are to be trayned thre times in the yere: viz. foure dayes together, at euery tyme. And they are to bee alowed (p. 280) in euery daye of there trayninge towards there charges eight pence a pece euery daye: Towardes all which charges this sessment for this present is appoynted viz. of the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> vs. apeece and of the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> iis. vid. apeece.

CCVII. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1576—7.] *Rents...Receipts...* of the XXIII<sup>ti</sup>, XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> and commons towardes the firste charges of the soldyars trayned accordinge to the counsellis lettres, att which tyme the towne was charged with tenne able parsonnes, the which were treyned with the soldyars of the countye at Melton...the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> viz. fyve shillings apeece...XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> 2s. 6d. apeece the some of £11. 17s. 0d....of the beste of the commoners the summe of 45s. 7d....towardes the charges of the crosse...the XXIII<sup>ti</sup>...£31...the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> £15. 15. 6d....certain persones for bowlinge at unlauffull tymes...5s. 6d.

*The totall somme...* £164. 16s. 7d....

*Giftes...* Mr Leaver...Bisshoppe of Lyncolne 16 Oct....Erle of Huntingdon...at Martlemas<sup>1</sup> to Bearewardes...7s. 4d....Lorde Crumwell and others of the Justices at the generall musters...Quenes majestys berewardes and my lorde of Darbyes...Erle of Warwycke his pleyars ...24s....

*Fees...* goinge to London abowte the balywicke...weytes collars...£5. 10s. 0d....Mr John Stanford for his charges at the parliaments beinge one of the burgeses for this towne after towe shillings a daye £7. 14s. 0d....to Sponer<sup>2</sup> for goinge to Coventry aboute the triall of a suspecte person 2s....for a proclamacion for the obsteynaunce (*sic*) frome fleshe in Lent 4d....16s. 8d. which was due to Mr Stanford for the pavinge of the strete in his warde...coveringe of the booke for the othes 2s. 8d....planckes for the brigg in Humberston gate...charges in lawe for suyng of Deane for monye he ought the towne 1s. 6d....certain apparell bestoed of 2 pore fellowses that is to saye of one of the souldiers and of one Parker 13s. 6d....2 that had the comyssion for cappes<sup>3</sup>...a newe comyssion for the musteringe of able persones...

*The charges of the soldyars trayned...* 2 calevers 31s....to the tenne persones appoynted for soldyars to bee trayned...8d. a daye, 26s. 8d. ...the guyder and instructor of the same 5s....preste monye for the

<sup>1</sup> Martinmas.

<sup>2</sup> beadle.

<sup>3</sup> ? Commissioners to see to the execution of the statute 13 Eliz. c. 19, compelling the wearing of caps on Sundays.

said ten...5s....12*li.* of gunpowther 14s. 6*d.*...the drummar...4s....a calyvour, flaske and a tuche boxe 12s....to dryncke by Mr Mayor his appoyntment 2s....6 calevers, morryans and flasks at 17s. apece £5. 2s. 0*d.*...gunpowther...one pounce of leade 1*d.*...5½ lb. of matche ...6 chargies and one gunne molde<sup>1</sup> 10*d.*...£14. 2s. 9*d.*

...*The totall somme*...£182. 10s. 2*d.*...the chambre indebted to Mr John Stanford by reason of the charges of the crosse £17. 13s. 7*d.* to be paid uppon the receipt of the £100 in the clothiers handes, uppon condycion that the said Mr S. shall fynishe the same crosse at his owne charges.

### CCVIII. *Names of persons providing arms.*

Box 8, No. 189. [Oct. 2, 1577.] Names of the Aldermen of the ten wards, and in each ward the names of those who provide h(arquebus), p(ike), b(ill), a(rcher's equipment).

### CCIX. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book II, p. 285. [Nov. 22, 1577.] *Towchinge Tiplars.* Item that no Tiplers or others that doe or shall use sellinge of stale ale or beare in there howses or other wise, doe not sell the same aboue iii*d.* ob. the gallon, and so after that rate by the penyworth and half-penyworth, uppon payne of iiis. iiiii*d.* for euery defalt. And none of them to denye to sell any of there said stronge ale or beare either newe or stale, for the price aforesaid, either by the gallon, penyworthe or halfpenyworth, or more or lesse, to anye person or persons that shall so require the same for there monye, havinge sufficient for there owne vse, vppon payne of euery one so denyeinge to forfytt iiis. iiiii*d.* for euery defalte, and bruinge the same them selves.

*For the Pore.* Also it is nowe agreed that the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> shall paye iiiii*d.* a pece weeklye towards the releef of the poore, and the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> ii*d.* a pece. And non to bee suffred to goe a begginge, and this to contynue till further order bee taken for them.

(p. 286.) *For the weytes.* Hit is agreed to have weites as aforetyme hathe byn vsed. And they to have this yere cotes of orringe color, and the sincke file of<sup>2</sup> there sleeves, etc.

*For the syrgiants.* Also the syrgiants to have there gownes this yere accordinge to the Acte made in the last tyme of the meyraltie of Mr Thomas Hallam<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> ? bullet mould.

<sup>2</sup> =cinque-foil on.

<sup>3</sup> See p. 158.

*For Shilton 3<sup>r</sup> bakere.* Also at this Common Haul William Shilton baker whoe was of St Mathewes daye last chosen to bee one of the Chamberlyns of the Towne of Leicester, the which he refused, where upon he was put to his fyne which is fyve poundes, nowe vpon his humble suete made vnto Mr Maior and his bretherne, and the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> then and there beinge assembled and associate together, he was released of the one half of his said fyne, and is appoynted to paye to the late chamberlyns, before there accounte 50s. And he euer hereafter to be free from the said office.

(p. 288.) [March 14, 1578.] Agreed vpon there as followeth.

*Towchinge Mr John Stanford and the accompt of his Chamberlyns.* Firste it is agreed, that the 78*li.* 4*s.* 4*d.* whiche is the foote of the accounte for the yeare paste, viz. of Roger Stringer and Thomas Stanford then Chamberlyns in the tyme of the meyraltie of Mr John Stanford, towards the charge of the Crosse then erected, ys alowed over and besydes the monye gaythered of the XXIII<sup>th</sup> and XLVIII<sup>th</sup> towards the same charges. Also yt is agreed that the resydue of the charges of the said Crosse allreadye paid by the said late chamberlyns whiche is xviii*li.* xiii*s.* viii*d.* whereof the Towne is to them indebted shalbee paid by the chamber of the said Towne owte of and vpon the payment of *cli.* into the Clothiars handes, untill the receipt; whereof the said Mr John Stanford and the said late Chamberlyns are contented and have nowe agreed to bere the said xviii*li.* xiii*s.* viii*d.*<sup>1</sup> them selves. In consideracion of all which attwance<sup>2</sup> of the charges of the said Crosse nowe allreadye past the said Mr Stanford hathe and nowe dothe promys that he will before mighellmas next at his proper costes and charges furnyshe the said crosse in all things whatsoever, and the same to bee covered with leade. Vpon the which promyses to bee accomplished in euery respecte, the said accompte of the said late Chamberlyns is alowed. And thereof the said Chamberlyns acquyted and discharged.

(p. 289.) *Assessment made to increase the Town Stocke.* Also it is nowe further agreed towards certen chargies which ensueth towards the Towne, and the rather for that the chamber of the said Towne is without a stocke, that euerye one of the XXIII<sup>th</sup> shall geve and paye to the Chamberlyns at this present beinge of the said Towne to the use of the Chamber of the said Towne fyve shillings. And euerye one of the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> shall likewise geue and paye unto the said chamberlyns to the use aforesaid iis. viii*d.* Also all the Commoners to bee sessed euery one reasonablye, which shall also goe to the said use.

<sup>1</sup> In the margin a memorandum of the payment.

<sup>2</sup> advance.

*For weyryng of Skarlett.* And further yt is agreed that the actes heretofore made for the weyryng of skarlett shall stand in force in all poynts<sup>1</sup>. And that all suche as doe lacke skarlett gownes which ought to were them shall provide them thereof before Maye daye next, uppon payne of *vli*. These tymes followinge are appoynted for the weyryng of skarlett, uppon payne of euerye one makinge defalt therein, havinge not a lauffull cause or excuse to the contrarye, shall forfytt for euerye tyme *xs.*: viz. Christomas day, Newyeres day, Twelfe day, Easter daye, Whitson daye, and at the Fayres, suche as shalbee then appoynted, and also on the dayes next after the said feastes of Christomas, Easter and Whit sondaye.

CCX. *Letter from the Privy Council.*

Box 8, No. 190. [April 27, 1578.] Council's letter requiring training of the armed men twice a year for two days together, and a view of the trained men<sup>2</sup>.

CCXI. *Arbitration on a dispute concerning a watercourse in Deadlane.*

Book of Acts, p. 68. [May 14, 1578.] Mr Thos. Sampson, Master and Warden of Wigston's Hospital, and Mr Sam. Culverwell arbitrate in the dispute between the burgesses and Tho. Hallam, concerning a watercourse flowing into a piece of ground in Deadlane which he lately bought of the Corporation. The water is to have its issue into the said ground as before, but with an iron grating, to be maintained at the cost of the town. Hallam may at his pleasure stop up or open another current or gutter lately there made on the east side of the door of the piece of ground so that he also may enjoy the benefit of the said old current, for the convenience of the water that comes out of his "backside," and other like uses.

CCXII. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book II, p. 290. June 20, 1578, a table (not filled in) of the names of collectors for St Martin's, St Margaret's, All Hallows, St Nicholas' and St Mary's parishes.

(p. 298.) [Sep. 29, 1578.] *Towchinge the cooles.* Hit is agreed, ordered and appoynted, that the olde Chamberlyns viz. Robert Robarts and Edwarde Newcombe shall have the sellinge of the cooles to the poore for this yeare followinge and so allways hereafter they

<sup>1</sup> See p. 83.

<sup>2</sup> See Dasent, *Privy Council* 1577—8, p. 217.



that buye the coles shall have the sellinge of the same cooles to the most profytt of the same, and shall paye the monye receyved for them to y<sup>e</sup> newe Chamberlyns within one weeke after they bee all solde, or els so muche as they have receyved, when the same shalbee called for by the maior for the tyme beinge. And also that from henceforthe the said cooles shalbe solde for fyve pence the hundred, and so after that rate by the penyeworthe and halfpennyworth.

[*Gowens.*] Also it is agreed that the weytes shall have Cotes, and the sargeons<sup>1</sup> Gownes for this yeare followinge.

CCXIII. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1577—8.] *Rents.. Receipts...* occupacion of shumakers...butchers upon there Ordinall...bakers...weyvors...taylors...sharmen upon there Ordynall...

The totall somme...£89. 2s. 6½*d.*

...*Gyftes*...Mr Samuell at the Auditt at the Castell...a pursivant that brought a commission...Mr Beamont...charges at the Erle of Leycestres passinge by the towne syde then bestoed on him £1. 6s. 1*d.* ...geven to pleyars of enterludes and to bearewards this yere more then was gaythered £1. 4s. 10*d.*...

*Fees*...for the bridgement of the statutes 5s....clothe for the weites cootes £1. 18s. 0*d.*...Symon Gunston deputye to one Mr Hare receiver of the fynes and amerciaments due in to the Duchie Chamber for amercyament exstrated<sup>2</sup> ageynst the inhabitants of the towne by the Clarke of the market for that our common strike was to bigge by a pottell as he supposed 47s....Mr Davy and Mr George Tatam sent to London aboute the travars<sup>3</sup> or discharge of certen issues or fynes extreyted upon certen of the xxiiii<sup>th</sup> for not appeiringe at the assices holden at the Castell of Leicester in the yere that Mr Thos. Skevington was heighe sheriff and then by him paneled of the greate inquest and of other inquests, the which by much travell they gat discharged; at which present they cold not get the amerciament for the strike discharged and also at that present they bought a wyne quarte and then had the brason gallon tried in the Exchequor and ther sealed: all the wholl charges is £9. 19s. 10*d.*...the cariar for carienge the brason gallon...charges of horsse and men carienge a prysoner to Harborowe that was sent from Yorke to the Counsell 7s. 8*d.*...

<sup>1</sup> sergeants.

<sup>2</sup> estreated, extracted.

<sup>3</sup> denial.

souldyars trayned this yere first for iiii. dim. of gun powther 15s. 4d., for 2*li.* of matche is....souldiars wages at 8d. a daye beinge ten and trayned but 2 dayes, to W. Grene for trayninge and conductinge the said soldiars 3s. 4d. The totall somme ys 33s....

*Reparacions*...scoweringe or castinge of newe the dike betwene the Cowehy and Mary Meadowe...mendinge of the steires goinge upp in to the hyc chamber at the haull...mendinge of the syncke in Dead Lane which was in contraversie betwene the Towne and Mr Hallam<sup>1</sup> and for a ston which is leyde over the same and for a grate for hitt...

*Totall somme* of all the payments ys £75. 14s. 4d....so there remeyneth to the towne...£13. 8s. 2½d.

#### CCXIV. *Minutes of Common Halls*<sup>2</sup>.

Hall Book II, p. 299. [Dec. 21, 1578.] *Touchinge Alehowses and resorters thereto.* Further it is ordered and established that no person or persons shall sitt or use or resorte to anye alehowsse or alehowses, tiplinge howses or innes or to any of them, there to drinke or tiple, or other wise to tarreye about anye unlawfull busynes, of any Wensdayes, Fridayes, or Sundayes, or other holydayes or festivall dayes in the tyme of the sarmons, devyne service, chathechisinge or such other godlye exersices, viz. betwixt viii and xi of the clocke in euery fornone of euerye of the said dayes, or suche other dayes as any such sarmons or exersice shall happen to bee, and of the Sundayes and other hallydayes not in the tyme of the said sarmons, sarvice, chathachisinge or other exersice, that shalbe in the afternone of anye of the said Sundayes or hallidayes; uppon payne of euerye person or persons so unlawfullye found, taken or knowne and the same dulye proved, to forfitt for euery defalte xii*d.* and the keper of the howsse other xii*d.* and the same to be presentlye paid to Mr Maior or his deputye for the tyme beinge, withoute any tolleracion, or else the offenders to bee commytted to warde, there to remeyne till they have paid the same, over and besydes the officers fees. And also that there shall non of any other dayes tarrye in any suche places, there tiplinge or drinckinge, otherwise then abowte there lawful busynes, above one houre of a daye, uppon the payne aforesaid, boeth to the parties and howssekeepers, and to be ordered as aforesaid untill the same be payd.

(p. 302.) *A restrent for Milners.* Hit is further ordered at this

<sup>1</sup> See above No. CCXI.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 262.

present that non of the milners neither of this towne of Leicester, nor of the countrie, shall not buye anye malte or other corne on the marktett daye within this towne of Leicester, uppon payne of xs. for euerye tyme to the contrarye, otherwise then for his and there owne provizion to spend in his howsse and that upon lyncense of Mr Maior first obteyned.

*For woode.* All wood lyeinge in the common and usuall streetes to be avoyded<sup>1</sup> presently<sup>2</sup>, uppon payne of forfeiture of the same woode, and to bee taken and gevon to the pore by the Alderman of the warde.

*For weyringe of Skarlett.* Mr Darker and Mr Thomas Hallam and either of them have undertaken and promysed to have skarlett gownes betwixt this and Whitsondaye next, and then have further promysed to were them under the payne of vii. apeece. And that to bee paid within iiij. dayes next after, or els to be commytted to warde, there to remeyne till the same be paid, and they provided notwithstandinge of the said gownes etc.

*For unlawfull games.* Memorandum that upon the third daye of December anno supradicto Mr Maior cawsed the statute for the avoydinge of unlawfull games to be opponlye redd at the Heighe Crosse in Leicester, to the end that the inhabitants therein maye refrayne y<sup>e</sup> same.

(p. 304.) [Dec. 22, 1578.] *Towchinge the clarcke of the marktett and our standerds and measures etc.* Memorandum that the xxii<sup>ti</sup> daye of December anno infrascripto, the clarcke of the marktett of the household of our soueraigne Ladye the Quenes majestye for this realme of England, his deputye called Mr Walles alias Jones, beinge here in this Towne of Leicester made his request unto Mr Middleton then maior, to have the vewe and seight of our Standerds, for that there hathe complaynts come before him, where he hathe sitt within the countye of Leycester, of the unsasiab<sup>3</sup>l<sup>e</sup> greatnesse of our standerd or strike. At the which present it was thought goode by the said Mr Mayor and also by other the Justices there, then with him associate, that he shold see all our standerdes. Whereuppon they made there repayre to the Guildhall with the said Clarke of the marktett, and cawsed to bee brought before them, the brason strike, the brason gallon, and the yarde wand, and also a brason wyne quarte. The which brason strike and gallon were founde evon right, lawfull and equall with the comon standerd of England. And then the

<sup>1</sup> removed.

<sup>2</sup> at once.

<sup>3</sup> insatiable.

brason yarde wand was founde to<sup>1</sup> longe, the cause whereof was as it semeth for that the same hath byn heretofore broken at one end thereof, and was peesed ageyne with tynne, whereby it was made to longe. The same is nowe also made fytt with his standerd: nota that all yarde wandes are to bee sealed at boethe endes. Also at the same present, our comon standerd which was made owte of the forsaide brason strike was also to bigge by a pottell. And nowe is made also fitt, accordinge to the standerd, and is appoynted to be every markett daye honghe<sup>2</sup> or remeyninge in the open markett place accordinge to the statute etc. And the forsaide wyne quarte was then found to little, and is not here to bee alowed, for that in all places owte of London the ale quarte and wyne quarte (as he saithe) ought to bee all one.

Memorandum he saith that the Cittye of London payethe C marks a yere for the alowinge and suffringe of there wyne measures which are not elsewhere alowed (as he also saithe). *Vale.*

[March 13, 1579.] *iiiiid. by yere oute of John Walkers howsse.* Memorandum that John Walker the mylner is to paye yerelye for ever *iiiiid.* per annum for a chymney goinge owte of his howsse cut oute of the end of the wall of the west brigge. Agreed upon by Mr Thomas Stanford in the second tyme of his meyraltie, and behynd unpeyd euer since.

(p. 306.) *The sesment etc.* Item yt is appoynted that towardes the chargies of the kepinge of *iiii* poste horses, the chargies of the trayninge of the soldyars, and towardes the repayringe of the northe bridge, shalbe a certen leire or assesment made throughe the wholl towne of all persons whatsoeuer as well burgeses, dwellinge owte of the Corporacion, as within the same, as also of others there inhabitinge, and resident, as of others, for suche howses they shall there haue and kepe in there handes to lye att at there pleasure, beinge not deyle inhabited. Towardes the which sessments the *XXIII<sup>ti</sup>* must paye *x<sup>s</sup>.* a pece, the *XLVIII<sup>ti</sup>* vs. a pece. And all the commoners and others there as aforesaid to be sessed by the maior, aldermen and Justices etc.

*Towchinge free men that shall goe owte of the Towne to dwell, and shall afterwarde come ageyne etc.* Item it is further condysended, concluded, enacted, established and for ever agreed to bee holden firme and stable without any tolleracion or suffrance of any maior hereafter: That if it shall happen anye free men otherwise called free

<sup>1</sup> to = 100.

<sup>2</sup> hung up.

burgeses of the towne of Leicester to dwell owte of the towne of Leicester or the liberties or subborbes thereof, by the space of one wholl yere and one daye and shall afterwards come to the said towne, liberties, or subbarbes thereof ageyne to dwell, and hathe not duringe suche tyme borne suche charges, for his parte and habillytye, as other freemen and burgeses, there duringe the same tyme, have done, shall not be suffred to use or occupye any trade or occupacion there, or be reputed, taken or accepted as a townes man, before suche tyme as he hathe firste submitted himself to the Maior and Chamberlyns of the said Towne of Leicester, for the tyme beinge, to be sworne of newe to the said corporacion, and to paye suche fyne to the vse of the corporacion as shalbee then sett doune for hym to paye of newe for his fredom, whiche shalbee att the least xs.

*For the byendinge<sup>1</sup> of apprentices.* Item it is further appoynted that non shall kepe anye apprentices unbound above XL<sup>ii</sup> dayes, but then shall byend them, or els put them away, uppon payne of xs. And shall also inroll euery suche apprentice before the Maior within ten dayes next after, for the which they shall paye to the Maiors Clarcke, if he make the indentures, but *iiiiid.* Or els for euery peyre inrollinge by any other made, *viiiid.*, upon the like payne of xs. All which forfitts to be lewyed by the Chamberlyns to the use of the Chamber of the said Towne of Leicester.

(p. 307.) *Weshinge clothes at y<sup>e</sup> comon wells etc.* Item yt ys appoynted that non shall weshe anye clothes, or other things wattsoeuer, at any the comon wells, in any parte of the Towne, after the holdinge of this comon hawle or cowrte, havinge once warninge to the contrarye, upon payne of euery person, for euerye defawlte, of *xiid.* to the use of the Chamber of the towne of Leicester.

*Towchinge the Land in Hillmorton.* Item it is appoynted that a lease shalbee made to some one person for *iii* yeres or more, at the discession of Mr Maior, of the land in Hillmorton which belongeth to the Towne of Leicester, for the triall howe muche the towne hathe there.

*For honye.* Item yt ys appoynted that euerye one that maketh honye in somer shall kepe one barrell at the least for euer hereafter yerelye, to sell in the Lent time, on the markett dayes in the opon markett, uppon payne of euerye one for euerye defalte to forfytt vis. *viiiid.*, to the use of the Corporacion.

*Towchinge the Corporacion.* Item it is agreed that Mr Maior shall doe his good will in takinge the Towne in fee farme, and to goe to

<sup>1</sup> binding.

London abowte the same, and to take one of the bretherne, which he shall like best of. And wott soeuer he shall doe or procure to bee done therein, the wholl companye of the xxiiii<sup>ti</sup> and xlviii<sup>ti</sup> now assembled for and in the name of the bodye politike and corporate of the said Towne of Leycester, they doe promys to hold firme, sure and to ratefyce.

*Towchinge Candles.* Item it is appoynted that all the chaundlars, as well dwellinge within this Towne of Leicester, as well as others that sell candle in the same, shall paye xld. a pece, to the use of the Corporacion for that they have broken the assise, heretofore sett downe for the sellinge of candles. All which forfyttys to be levied by the chamberlyns for the time beinge, and they to answeere the same at there accompte.

(p. 305.) [Ap. 3, 1579.] (*Proclamations.*) The same Frydaye at ix of the clocke that night received of a pursivant a writt dyrected to the Maior and baylif of Leicester for the proclayming of certen proclamacions then also sent, towchinge the pulling of felles, which proclamacions were dated 28 of Februarye, anno xxi<sup>o</sup> Eliz. Regine, and are to contynue during her pleasure; and the said writt is dated Secundo die Marcii, anno supradicto.

[June 1, 1579.] *For Valentyne Wells.* In the opon corte one Valentyne Welles of Silebe, baker, whoe heretofore dwelt within the towne of Leicester and was made freeman of the same towne in the tyme of the meyraltie of Mr Richard Darker, who hathe discontinued owte of the said towne the most parte euer synce, is nowe come ageyne to the said towne of Leicester to dwell, hathe preyed to bee admitted into the fredom thereof ageyne, whereuppon he was received and sworne and his fyne for his fredom set downe at xs.

(p. 309.) [June 10, 11, 1579.] *Souldiars treyned.* Memorandum that of Mondaye and Tuesdaye in Whitsonweke, this yere 1579, the ten souldiars for the towne of Leicester were trayned with the other souldiars of the cuntrye<sup>1</sup> accordinge the Quens majesties letters. The names of our ten souldiars bee these. (Then follow ten names of men, of whom eight are shoemakers, one a carpenter, one a smith.)

(p. 311.) [June 20, 1579.] *Coles.* Memorandum that the daye and yere aforesaid, William Cater hath payd sixe poundes to the Chamberlyns, geven by the Erle of Huntingdon towards the provizion of sea coole for the pore in Leicester. This is the last payment: hit was vii*l*. a yere paid for vii yeres: the wholl some comethe to xlii*l*.i.

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<sup>1</sup> county.

Also his Lordshippe did yerelye by his tenants geve the carriage of soe manye coles as yerelye were boughte with *vili*.

[July 22, 1579.] (*The plague.*) First that the *xxiiii<sup>ti</sup>* shall paye *xiid.* apece, and the *xlvi<sup>ti</sup>* *vid.* apece towards the kepinge of the vizited of the plage as often as nede shall requyre, duringe suche tyme they<sup>1</sup> same shall contynue. And all the commoners and others inhabitinge within the towne of Leicester to be charged towards the same.

(*Mayoral Election.*) Item yt ys nowe set downe that Mr Will. Norys and Mr Geo. Tatam shall be in eleccion for the Maior to be chosen of St Mathues Daye next and no other to be chosen or put in eleccion etc.

(*Orphhans.*) Item that the Acte for orphants be in all respects executed<sup>2</sup>.

*Towchinge the Baylywicke.* Item it is fully agreed to bye the Baylywicke, to the use of the towne. And Mr John Stanford whoe hathe bought Mr John Danets patent, hathe nowe sold it over ageyne to the towne for *iiii<sup>xx</sup>* ponde, besydes his chargies: which must bee paid at Mighellmas next oute of the *cli.* which the clothier is then to answeere, which he standeth bound forr, and the Towne muste enter uppon yt at Martlemas next, so sone as the awdytt is fynished.

(p. 312.) (*Watering-place.*) Item it ys agreed that the wateryng place in the South Gate shalbe repayred before Maye Daye next.

*Alderman.* Item Mr Stanford thelder must still stand Alderman and Mr Richard his son is appoynted to be his deputye.

(Also Mr Hallam.)

(*The plague.*) Item Mr George Tatam, John Hyend and William Fowlar are discharged of payment of monye towards the kepinge of the vizited of the plage: For that they have undertaken and promysed to kepe William Shippen and his housshold at there owne charges, who are nowe also vizited with the plage.

*Mr Hull.* Item Thomas Hull is lycensed to use his occupacon and to utter and sell his wares betwixte this and Christomas nexte, and no longer, at his perill.

[Sep. 21, 1579.] (p. 318.) *For colleccion of monye, towards a haven.* Also in this said feast of St Mathew it is agreed at the request of the right honorable Sir James Dier knight, to make colleccion towards the charges of a haven called Hastings Haven: And that there shalbe *xxs.* geithered for the same, the *xxiiii<sup>ti</sup>* to paye *iiiiid.* a pece, to be geithered by the sergeant, and the *xlvi<sup>ti</sup>* to paye *iid.* a pece

<sup>1</sup> they = the.

<sup>2</sup> See above, p. 135.

to be geithered by the Chamberlyns, and the rest lackinge, of the commons.

*Towchinge a skarlet gonne for Mr Recorder.* Also it is agreed that Mr Recorder shall haue a skarlett gowne at the charges of the towne towards the which Mr John Stanford promyseth to give xls. and the rest of that companye promise to geve vs. a pece and to be collected before Allhaloutide next.

(*Mayor fined.*) [The newly elected Mayor being absent in London was fined £5 for his absence.]

### CCXV. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1578—9.] *Rents ..Receipts...* occupacion of the cowpers upon theire ordinall<sup>1</sup>...glovers...shreddings of the trees at Ratlif...certain persons for kepinge of yll rule 6s....Totall somme £110. 16s. 1d.

...*Gyftes...*a pursivant which brought certain proclamacions...Mr Pachet the preacher...George Warde and other beare wards at Mr Mayors dynner...Mr Radford the Clarke of the Assices...a pursivant that brought proclamacions towchinge the pullyng of felles...wyne gevon to Mr Maior of Coventrye...a precher...quenes majesties bearewordes 17s....wyne gevon to one that carried upp a lettre to London for Mr Maior elected 10d.

*Fees.* Maior...£13. 6s. 8d....Maiors Clarcke...26s. 8d....Mr Aston one of the schole masters for his wages £10...4 session dynners viz. 2 quarter sessyon and the 2 gaol delyveryes...trayninge the ten soldiers...Towards the chargies of the vizited howses 30s....mendinge of the common strike and for a cheyne and a locke for hytte 3s. 4d. ...horses goinge to Ratlif to peruse<sup>2</sup> the wood and selling of the shreddings there...4 yardes and a half of orrenge tawney for the weites cootes 38s....yarde and a half of brode clothe for a cote for the beaddle 11s. 4d....mendinge a flaske and a tuchboxe...

*Reparacions...*bridge in Humberston gate...bridge by the Antiloppe...a hole in the North bridge before the newe reparyrynge (*sic*) of the same bridge...worke at the old hawll...settinge upp a frame for the armour...glasse wyndows...for the chamber for Mr Recorder £1. 3s. 4d.

*The totall summe.....*£87. 17s. 9d.....So there remeyneth..... £22. 18s. 4d.

<sup>1</sup> Coopers' forfeits for breaches of their trade rules.

<sup>2</sup> ? to survey.



CCXVI. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book II, p. 323. [Nov. 20, 1579.] *For Ale houses.* Item it is ordered decreed and appoynted that all and euerye person and persons whatsoever kepinge alehowses, tiplinge howses, victuling houses or that nowe doe, or hereafter shall use comon sellinge of ale or beare in any howses, tavvens, shoppes, cellars, bothes, or anye other place or places whatsoever within this towne of Leicester or the liberties or precincts thereof: that they and euery of them shall and do provyde them and euery of them of quarte potts and pynte potts of putar, befor Christomas next upon peyne of *xii*d**. for euery one therein ofendinge for the first offence. And then to provide the same within iii wekes next after upon peyne of *iis.* for the second offence. And everye one offendinge the seconde tyme therein shall then provide them of the said potts within other iii wekes then nexte followinge; upon peyne of beinge dismissed of there victuallinge for ever afterward to sell ale or beare by retayle: but maye at there pleyasures become comon bruars, to tun forthe of there howses ale or beare accordinge to thassyce. And that they nor anye of them doe sell ale or beare by any other measures, (p. 324) nor doe use or occupye anye other measures or potts in there houses, shoppes, bothes, or other places (savinge onlye little glasses or cruses, for the said ale or beare to be druncke owte of) nor doe sell lesse then a quarte for a penye, and a pyent for a halfepenny, either to towne men or straungers whatsoever, howe strounge socuer there ale or beare bee, upon peyne of *xii*d**. for the first offence; and for the seconde offence *iis.* and ii daies imprisonment: and for the thirde offence to bee utterlye dismissed of there victualinge, accordinge to the statute, and not at any tyme after to bee suffred to kepe a victualinge house, or to use sellinge of ale or beare. And also that all and euery suche person and persones beinge inhabitants, that shalle resorte to anye suche ale houses, or tiplinge houses, or to anye place where ale or bere is sold, and there do or shall take anye lesse ale or beare then a quarte for a penye or a pyent for a halfpenye, or shall have, take or receyve the same ale or beare in anye other measures, potts or sorte then is afore herein appoynted and lymitted (other than a cruse or litle glasse to dryncke the same oute of) shall if they be of the *xxiiii<sup>th</sup>* paye for eury offence *iiii*d**., and the *xlvi<sup>th</sup>* for euery suche offence *ii*d**., and other comoners for euery suche offence *i*d**. All which forfitts shalbe collected to the use of the pore.

*Pro Catesbye.* Memorandum that Erasmus Catesbye, gent., late inhabiting in the Towne of Leicester, and made free thereof this last yere by Mr Middleton, hath request to contynue his freedom by and uppon the yerelye payment at Maydaye of *xiid.* to the chamber of the Towne.

(p. 326.) [Feb. 26, 1580.] *Towchinge the Clothiar.* Item it is agreed, that for so muche as the *cli.* is unpaid by Bradgate at his daye, which was Mighellmas laste, for the payment whereof Mr John Stanford and others stand bounden to the towne, that the said Mr Stanford shalbe putt in sute for the same etc.

[March 30, 1580.] (*Mace-bearer.*) By Mr Thomas Skeffington esquier, a letter was sent to Mr Maior and his bretherne, in the behalf of Thomas Wurshippe, to be the mace bearer to Mr Maior and his successors, Roberte Bilbrocke beinge dead, whereupon there was assembled together at the Towne haull for the same, the said Wensdaye, after the sarmon, these persons, viz. Mr William Noryce, Maior, Mr Manbye, Mr John Heyricke, Mr Hallam, Mr John Tatam, Mr Middleton, Mr George Tatam, Mr Moreton and Mr Wurshippe, whoe havinge due consideracion of the aforesaid lettre, the request thereby beinge found reasonable, and the said Thomas Wurshipp by them thought to be a man moest able for that offyce, was thereupon by them chosen and appoynted to that office, and then byfore them sworne accordinge to the order and custome of the Towne.

### CCXVII. *Arms, armour and musters.*

Box 8, No. 191. (*a*) [March 29, 1580.] Order for muster in towns corporate (unsigned); and if there be special grant for an exemption, that the claim be entered.

*Ibid.* (*b*) [March 31, 1580.] Number of able persons mustered 515.

"Allmon Revytts 40, Corseletts 10, Murryans 10, Harquebuses 10, Morrispikes 10, Shefes of arrowes 20, Bowes 20, Blacke billes<sup>1</sup> 100."

*Ibid.* (*c*) Names of 8 men (mostly servants) to go to Melton to be trained Mar. 31, 1580.

"Charge in gunpowder 14s., for a barrell for it 4d., for matche 4d., wages 2 days 13s. 4d. after 7d. a pece a day."

*Ibid.* (*d*) Muster roll. 17 May, 1580. The wards and those who contribute har(quebus), ar(rows?), b(ill), l(abourer), p(ike).

*Ibid.* (*e*) Undated list of "inmates," with the name of the place from which each lodger has come.

Box 1 A, No. 565. [Ap. 18, 1580.] Appointment as commissioners for musters of Henry Earl of Huntingdon President of the Council of the North, the Mayor of Leicester, Francis Hastings Esq., George Turpyn, knight, Thos. Skeffington Esq., John Eyrick, John Stanford, John Middleton, burgesses, with general instructions (in English) as above No. CLXXXV.

(Great seal.)

<sup>1</sup> See notes, pp. 165, 165, 168.

Hall Book II, p. 327. [May 23, 24, 1580.] *Soldyars*. Also Mondaye and Tuesdaye in Whitsonweeke, our ten trayned Soldiars were sent to Melton, and there trayned those ii dayes before the commissioners for that devizion. The charges of there trayninge at this present was xls. *vd*.

*Commission for musters*. Memorandum this yere a newe commys-syon sent to the justices of the Countye of Leicester for generall musters, whereupon the Towne of Leicester sued an other for the generall musters to be taken within the towne, or els the justices of the countye, by vertye of there commissyon, wold and might have entermedled within our corporacion. The commissyoners for the towne of Leicester toke generall musters there of Tuesdaye the xvii<sup>th</sup> of Maye. And the number of the able parsons mustered at that present of the bodye of the towne of Leicester were DC and odd, oure said commissyon coste in suinge owte, and charges sendinge for the same xls.

Box 8, No. 193. [June 30, 1580.] A long list of names of persons answerable for the provision of certain arms, e.g. gleve<sup>1</sup>, payre of splentes<sup>2</sup>, skulle<sup>3</sup>, plate coote, pollax, caliver, sallett<sup>2</sup>, halbard, boo<sup>4</sup>, sheff of arrowes, black bill<sup>5</sup>, corselet, arming sword, murryan<sup>6</sup>, an allmon ryvett<sup>2</sup>; in some cases a sum of money is charged instead.

### CCXVIII. *Minutes of a Common Hall.*

(p. 332.) [Sep. 21, 1580.] (Francis Norris "spared from the company of the 48" for a year, provided he pays all charges due from the members of the company.)

*For Children*. Also it was then (anno Eliz. xxii<sup>o</sup>) further agreed that euery childe from the age of viii yeres upwards shalbe toughte the Lords Prayer, the Articles of there beleefe, and also to answeare to certen poynts of the Catechisme, upon a peynaltie to the parents and masters, of eueryone to the contrarye, beinge no nedyates<sup>7</sup>, as followeth:—viz. the xxiiii<sup>th</sup> xiid., the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> viid. and other commonners iiid. a pece, or iii dayes ymprisonment at Mr Mayors pleyzure. And to begyn att Christomas next comynge.

<sup>1</sup> glaive, a kind of halbert, a blade fastened to a long handle.

<sup>2</sup> See note above, p. 56.

<sup>3</sup> head-piece.

<sup>4</sup> bow.

<sup>5</sup> See p. 165, note 5.

<sup>6</sup> See p. 168, note 3.

<sup>7</sup> idiots: "nidget" was a common popular corruption in the sixteenth century.

CCXIX. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1579—80.] *Rents...Receipts...* Andrewe Marsam<sup>1</sup> virgynall maker for his fredom 10s....Totall somme...£79. 3s. 9½*d.*

*Gifts...* Earle of Huntingdon then being at Leicester and that night laye att the abbye....suger...wyne...39s....Sherif and Justices assembled for generall musters...Bishippe of Lincolne att his vizitation...Mr F. Hastings and his wyeff att there comyng from London..... Mr Sampson...therle of Darbyes pleyers...one Johnson and his fellowe which have a commissyon to enquire of unlauffull games etc....

*Fees...* spent abowte certen besynes of the townes...by the comandement of the Justices att which tyme certen persons were examyned for wordes spoken ageynst and towchinge Mr Noryce then Mayor...6 yardes of brode tawnye clothe and a quartern at 9s. the yarde for the weytes and biadles cootes...charges in gettinge forthe the commissyon for generall musters...certen persons that wayted on Mr Maior att Maye Daye fayor...Ric. Archer then deputye to Mr John Danett then Bayllye certen charges he was att by sute of lawe in London by the meanes of the ammoner<sup>2</sup> whoe wold have delt within this towne for deodands<sup>3</sup> and for woodlands<sup>4</sup>, goods felon de sea<sup>5</sup>, 51s....tenn soldiars trayned...the government of them to Melton...a whipp 1½*d.*...a jacke 2s.

*Reparacions...* hyngells for the kitchyn wyndowe att the hall... 2 gallons of Critche<sup>6</sup> lyme...a frame...for a kitchyn for the schole masters howsse...

*Totall somme...* £71. 14s. 1½*d.* So there remeyneth...£7. 9s. 8*d.*

CCXX. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book II, p. 335. [Nov. 17, 1580.] (*Gaddesby's will.*) First the last will and testament of Robert Gadesbye openlye read, and so to be yerely, at this common hall for ever.

(p. 336.) (*Pewter pots.*) Also the acte for pewter potts<sup>7</sup> to stand in force in all respects, and none to sell ale or beare in any other potts etc.

(*Freedom.*) Also the acte made towchinge freemen departinge the Toun to dwell and comynge ageyne<sup>8</sup> etc. to stand in force in all respects.

<sup>1</sup> MS. has Marsam, not Marsani.

<sup>2</sup> almoner.

<sup>3</sup> goods forfeited to God, i.e. to the Crown for pious uses.

<sup>4</sup> ? wardship of the lands of lunatics.

<sup>5</sup> of "felons de se," similarly forfeit as deodand.

<sup>6</sup> See I. 168, note 2.

<sup>7</sup> See p. 181.

<sup>8</sup> See pp. 176-7.

(*Gaddesby*.) Item yt is agreed that the Chamber of the Towne shall beare parte of the charges which shalbee spent abowte Gadsbyes lande by his executors, ageynst them that make clayme thereto, contrarye to his last will and testament.

(p. 337.) (*Sermons*.) Item yt ys further agreed that there shall come to euery sarmond as well of Wensdays and Frydayes, as other tymes, one of a howsse at the least upon the peyne followinge, viz. the XXIII<sup>ii</sup> iiiid. a pece, the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> iid. apece, and the commoners *id*.

(p. 338.) [Feb. 17, 1581.] *Towchinge y<sup>e</sup> Acte for orphants*. Item they haue agreed and appoynted that the acte for Orffants shall styll remeyne in force, and be executed<sup>1</sup>: But to bee newe pennyd and amended by the councell and advice of Master Recorder in all suche poynts as bee nedefull; And further that yt shalbe lafull, to take suerties, for anye Orphants goods, ass well of straungers as townesmen, beinge able and suffycient persons.

*For unlawfull games*. Item it is further agreed and appoynted, that the xls., which is allreadye gevon to one Johnson (who hathe the penaltey for unlawfull games and lacke of artillery, gevon hym by the Queens maiestye by her comissyon) shalbe leyvyed uppe ageyne, of the ale howsses, where unlawfull games bee used, and other howses wherein unlawfull games be used, and of the offenders therein etc.

*Pro Westowes*. Item it is agreed that there shalbe, before Easter next cominge, xli. lent by the Chamberlyns of the Towne stocke, to William Westowes, for one yere upon Mr Dayes bond.

*Ale howses*. Also it is further agreed that all such persons as bee founde in anye ale howses in the sarmond tyme shall paye suche fyne for the same, as shall seeme good to Mr Maior, or else be comytted to warde.

(p. 339.) *For the Meyrs sergiant*. Item yt ys further agreed, that from henceforthe the XXIII<sup>ii</sup> to geve xiid. a pece, and the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> vid. a pece, to the Mayors sergiant, yerelye to be payd, by the half yere.

*For the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup>*. Also yt is agreed that suche of the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> as shall hereafter so offend, as he or they shall deserve punishment, shall be punysshed at the newe hall, and no moe of that companye from henceforthe, to be punysshed at the olde hall. But yt shalbe at Mr Mayors pleasure whether the hall dore shalbe lockt uppon any suche offender or not.

[Ap. 9, 1581.] (Note of the Commissioners of the Subsidy.)

(p. 340.) [May 10, 1581.] (*The fifteenth*.) Item towards the pay-

<sup>1</sup> See p. 135.

ment of the first fyftene hyt is agreed the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> to paye vs. a pece, and the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> iis. vid. a pece, and also the comoners and inhabitants to be charged towards the same.

Memorandum, Mr Ludlam, appoynted Collector for the said fyftene, viz. y<sup>e</sup> first payment, the xv<sup>th</sup> is xxi*li*. and xs. allowed for charges.

(*Burgesses of Parliament.*) Item itt is agreed that Mr Braham and Mr John Stanford, burgesses of the seid parlyament, shalbe paid there charges allowed by statute.

(*Dismissal from XLVIII.*) Item, Arthur Tatam dismissed from the companye of the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> for certayne disorders and for lybel-ling etc.

(p. 343.) [Sep. 21, 1581.] *Chamberlyns dynners.* Memorandum att this common hall hitt is by the greater parte agreed that the Chamberlayns shall ever hereafter kepe a dynner att the hall according to the old custome. And this yere to begyn upon payne of euerye one making defaulte to forfytt fy(v)e pounds to the Corporacion etc.

#### CCXXI. *Chamberlains' Account*<sup>1</sup>.

[1580—1.] *Rentes...Receipts.* Grace Jones wydowe for her fredom ...Mr John Stanford and Mistris Shingleton for the debtt of the Clothyer viz. Mr Bradgate which was lent his son Thomas for 7 yeres ...£100... totall somme £197. 7s. 4½*d*.

...*Giftes...*awdytors and receyvour...wyne, suger, cakes and frute gevon to the Lady Varnam<sup>2</sup> by Mistris Mayris and her sisters att her comynge from London 8s. 4*d*....two berewards att Mr Mayors dynner more (etc.)...Mr F. Hastings then heighe sheriff...Mr Mydleton a preacher whoe made two sermons att St Martyns 10s....Johnson who hath the Queens Majestyes commissyon for repressinge of unlawfull games and for mayntenaunce of artillerye, for that he shoulde not deale within the towne 20s....wyne and suger gevon to Mr Breame<sup>3</sup> att his going upp to the parlyament...Quenes Maiesties bearewards viz. one Shawe and one other more then was gaythered 4s....Sir E. Hastings knight att his comynge whom<sup>4</sup> forth of the Northe parts...charges in sendinge upp to London renewinge of the aforesaid commissyon<sup>5</sup> and alteringe of the commissyoners names and puttinge in moe of the comburges...chamberlaynes and dyvers others sent to Wheston to weve certen leyr<sup>6</sup> fures<sup>7</sup> and other contraversies

<sup>1</sup> Headed "Emanuel."

<sup>2</sup> Vernon.

<sup>3</sup> Braham.

<sup>4</sup> whom = home.

<sup>5</sup> For musters.

<sup>6</sup> fallows.

<sup>7</sup> A.-S. foryrð, Lat. forerda, forera, headlands.

betwixt the freeholders there and oure tenaunts...<sup>2</sup> sugar loves weyinge 15*li*. 5*oz*. 23*s*., 14 gallons and 1 quarte of clarrett wyne in a runlett<sup>1</sup> 28*s*. 6*d*., and foure gallons of secke 10*s*. 8*d*. gevon by Mr Mayor and his bretherne to therle of Huntingdon att his comynge from Yorke and nowe lyinge att the Newarke in Leicester...cakes...cherries...gevon by Mistris Meyrys and her sisters to the countys of Huntingdon...wyne att the Angell that Mr Maior and other the Justices had att the metynge there with the Justices of the shier abowte the demylaunces and light horssees that certen of the Meyres bretheren by the Counsell were charged to fynde, 6*d*....secke sente to Mr Recorder...when Dedycke was sente to hym aboute the pennynge of a lettre devysed to be sente to the Counsell by the towne in discharge of the seide demylaunces and light horssees 4*s*....Mr Fraunces Saunders and his wyfe...att the Angell...Erle of Darbyes players more (etc.) 14*s*....my lorde Dyer<sup>2</sup> and Justice Meade att the assices in sommer...a pursyaunt that brought certen proclamacions for the adorningement of parte of Michaellmas terme 1581...caryinge with expedicyon to the bayllye of Melton, and to passe from hym to Grauntam to the post there, a packett of lettres, proclamacions and wryttes delyuered by therle of Huntingdon to Mr Mayor to be conveyed with speede as aforeseyd...hyer of certeyne horsse lente to therle of Huntingdon from Leicester to Kyllingworthe and from thence to Northampton and so to London and for a gyde to brynge them backe agayne...

*Fees*...to Fayne the heade ussher of the grammar schole...£10...Budworthe the under ussher...£3. 6*s*. 8*d*....Mr John Stanford in full satisfacyon and payment of all the charges aboute the Crosse...as in the booke of the Regester of the same common hall<sup>3</sup> doothe appeyre...byddles badge and for sylver to hytt...Mr Recorder att the Angell...stayinge abowte the townes busynes...Mr Freake uppon the receipt of the £100 lente to the clothier...Mistris Shingleton for the 20*s*. lent by her late husband (and others)...Mr Braham one of the burgesses of the parlyament for the towne of Leicester being 16 dayes att the parlyamente nowe laste holden, for and towards his charges £3. 6*s*. 8*d*....Mr John Stanford the other burgese of the parlyament, for and towards his charges...9 weekes £6. 6*s*. 0*d*....Goodwief Gaddsbye<sup>4</sup> for parte of her charges in the lawe in tryall of her title and the townes for the land by Rob. Gaddsbye her late husbande in reversion

<sup>1</sup> small barrel.

<sup>2</sup> James Dyer Chief Justice of Common Pleas.

<sup>3</sup> See above p. 171.

<sup>4</sup> See above pp. 184-5.

gevon to the chamber of the towne...£5....yron for a gun stick...  
killinge of 14 moulds<sup>1</sup> in the Cowehey 8d....

*Totall somme*.....£135. 12s. 3d.....so there remeyneth.....  
£61. 15s. 1½d.

# CCXXII. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book II, p. 346. [Nov. 17, 1581.] (*Dismissal from XLVIII.*)  
Memorandum att the Comon hall within wrytton, Arthur Tatam was  
dismissed of the companye of the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> agayne, for his disorders  
commytted agaynst Mr Hallam and Mr Ellys etc.

(p. 349.) [March 9, 1582.] *The account readd etc.* Firste the  
accounte of Marke Dakyn and William Fowler, Chamberlyns of the  
Towne of Leicester the yere paste, to Mr George Tatam then Mayor,  
was oppenlye reidd, and then confirmed and alowed: Savinge that  
summe did miselike that Mr Stanford hathe byn alowed his charges  
for the Parliament last past, for that (they saye) he seid when he  
was chossen Burges, he wold not crave his charge, except he did good  
to the Towne: Whereuppon it is by summe parte of the hall agreed,  
that if the said Mr Stanford doe att anye tyme hereafter (by reson of  
his Burgeship<sup>2</sup>) any good to the Towne, then his charges to be  
allowed: otherwise, he to repaye ageyne that which he hathe  
received for his charges for the ii Parliaments past etc.

*Towchinge Symon Crofts and his wief for y<sup>e</sup> shipp<sup>3</sup> pennes.* Also att  
this present Mr Frauncis Hastings did delyuer unto Mr Maior and  
certen of his brethern a lettre from the Counsell, and one other lettre  
from the Earle of Huntingdon, in the behalfe of Symon Crofts, towch-  
inge the shippe<sup>3</sup> pennes, the which letteres are hereunto annexed.  
Att which tyme the seid letters were oppenlye readde in the seid hall  
whereupon it was by boethe the Companies, or the moest partt of  
them agreed as followethe, viz.: Item att this Commen hall itt is  
agreed, and the rather uppon the seid letters, thatt the said Symon  
Crofts, duringe his lyef, and the lease which the Towne holdeth the seid  
shippe pennes by (in beinge) shall have...the same pennes...(p. 350)  
uppon the rent he nowe payeth for them to the Towne. Which is  
ix*li*. vis. viii*d*....provided allwayes that the seid Symon shall not  
exacte of anye for the seid pennes in takinge more, otherwise then  
heretofore he hathe usually doen. Neither is it mente by this order,  
that anye, whatsoeuer, shall without the good will of the same Symon

<sup>1</sup> moles.

<sup>2</sup> i.e. his membership of parliament.

<sup>3</sup> shippe=sheep.



take anye penne for xl, l<sup>ii</sup> or a c sheepe, which will hold or serve for a more number, unlesse they paye for euery suche penne, after the rate of suche number as the same penne will reasonablye holde, etc.

Provided further that the seid Symon shall not sett anye pennes uppon the Corne wall of anye markett dayes, without license of Mr Mayor for the tyme beinge, otherwise then heretofore hath byn used etc.

Item itt is further agreed that Jone nowe wief of the seid Symon, (if she happen to survyve the same Symon and the seid lease in beinge) shall duringe the tyme of her wydowhode, bee and continue tenante to the Towne for the said shippe pennes (if the said lease soe longe contynue) in suche manner sorte and forme as is aforesaid, kepinge the same in her manuell occupacion. Yett not withstandinge it shalbe lafull for them, and either of them, to have att anye the fayors and markitts, anye to helpe them or either of them in and for the better orderinge, lettinge and usinge of the same pennes, theire, or either of there, more proffitt, ease, quietnes and securitye therein.

(p. 351.) *For an ordinall for the brewers.* Also att the seid Commen haull, the brewers requested to have an ordynall, as well for and towchinge orders emongst themselves and the brewers of stronge ales, as of other tiplers and victualers of ale or beare. The whiche there request is well liked upon and graunted, so that the same orders be sene and alowed first by Mr Mayor, recorder and justices etc.

[Ap. 7, 1582.] (*Proclamations.*) Receved by one of her majesties messengers certen proclamacions agaynst Jesuites and semynaries<sup>1</sup> with a writt or warrant for the publishinge thereof.

(p. 352.) [May 7, 1582.] (*Fifteenth etc.*) (Note that the Mayor and his brethren paid £8 to the second fifteenth and the keeping of posthorses, the XLVIII (two lacking) paid £7. 13s. 4d., and collected among the commons £12. 3s. 4d.; in all £27. 16s. 8d.)

Note of the appointment of a collector who received towards his charge 10s. and collected £21.)

(*Distress.*) Memorandum y<sup>at</sup> Nixe of the graunge was sessed at iis. y<sup>e</sup> xv<sup>th</sup> and wold not paye y<sup>e</sup> same, therefore a distresse was taken etc. viz. iii platters which are in y<sup>e</sup> cubbord at the hall etc. paid and discharged.

(p. 355.) (*Furniture.*) (Note on the furnishing of the Recorder's Chamber, see Chamberlains' account below.)

<sup>1</sup> Cf. Strype's *Annals* III. i. 120.

CCXXIII. *Borough wardship of an orphan.*

Hall Papers I, 5. [July 24, 1582.] Arthur Simpson son of Denis Simpson acknowledges receipt from the chamber of the town of part of £24 due on Sep. 29, 1583, his child's part<sup>1</sup>, under the will of his father, committed to the custody and safe keeping of the chamber.

CCXXIV. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1581--2.] *Rents.. Receipts* £146. 12s. 1½*d.*...

*Gyftes*...Ladye Varnam by Mistris Mayrys 18 Feb....Mr John Dannytt servaunt to Sir Rafe Sadler knighte, Chauncelor of the Duchie, for his good fortherance in takinge of the lease of the shippe pennes<sup>2</sup>...wine and shugar gevon to the Earle of Essex...Justice Meade...by Mistris Meyrys to the Ladye Hastings att the abbye...to the lord Chamberlyn vicz. the Earle of Sussex...Earle of Huntingdon ...tenne weathers gevon to the said Earle then lyinge att Bagworthe Park...Bishoppe of Lyncolne 14 Aug....a pursyvante that brought proclamacions towchinge Jesuyttes<sup>3</sup>...bearewards this yere more (etc.) ...23s. 8*d.*....2 smocks gevon to a pore woman called Susans 2s. 4*d.*... kepinge of the said woman 5s. 4*d.*...porter att the Castell which he claymithe as his fee att the tyme of the Awdytt 4*d.*...gevon by Mr Mayors appoynted<sup>4</sup> to the Baillif of Leicester which was by hym gevon to the Judges att the Assices as there fee 10s....

*Fees*...paid more for stuffe that was occupied aboute the armorye the which was leyther for skabbards and lockars<sup>5</sup> and chapes<sup>6</sup> for daggars and varnyshe and coles for fyer and screwe pynnes for gunnes...wholl charges in takinge a newe lease of the shypp pennes £24. 10s. 8*d.*...booke of the last statutes 2s....makinge cleyne of the leyther buckytts...payd for a calever or gunne, a hedpece, a flaxe<sup>7</sup> and tuche boxe 20s....waynge upp of the olde coles 6*d.*...payed for a trusse beddstede<sup>8</sup>, a trundle bedde<sup>9</sup> and a cubbard sett in the chamber att the hall there to remeyne for the use of Mr Recorder 26s. 8*d.*...

<sup>1</sup> On the "bairn's part" and "legitim" in English law (long maintained in the boroughs), see Pollock and Maitland, *Hist. Eng. Law* II. 346. See *child's part* in *N. E. D.*

<sup>2</sup> See above p. 188.

<sup>3</sup> See above p. 189.

<sup>4</sup> appoynted=appointment. <sup>5</sup> buckles.

<sup>6</sup> The "chape" of a scabbard was the metal plate covering the point: also used for a "buckle."

<sup>7</sup> flask for powder.

<sup>8</sup> A travelling bedstead, one that could be packed.

<sup>9</sup> Bed for a child or servant (see below), that could be trundled under the high bed in the day-time.

*Reparacions...*locke for the hall where the prison is...mendynge of the preve att the hall...

Totall somme £127. 16s. 8d....so there remeyneth...£18. 15s. 5d.

### CCXXV. *Freedom from Toll.*

Box 7 A, 4<sup>1</sup>. [Oct. 20, 1582.] Letters patent of Will. Morton Mayor proclaiming the town's freedom from toll, and referring to John's charter (I. No. 1X) and to acts of parliament. He names certain clothiers whose goods are to go free.

### CCXXVI. *Minutes of Common Hall.*

Hall Book II, p. 362. [Nov. 17, 1582.] (*Measures.*) Item itt is agreed y<sup>at</sup> y<sup>e</sup> olde gallows shalbe used agayne and made as bigge as they weare before they were cutt by Mr Will. Norice in the seconde tyme of his meyralty.

*Mucke.* Item it is ordered that all inhabitants within this towne or others that have howses in there hands uninhabited shall for everye of there partes cause the stretes before their seid houses and therevnto belonging to be wekelye made and kept cleyne, and the mucke, filthe or garbage therof to bee also wekelye caryed awaye, upon payne of every one making default to forfytt and paye to the use of the corporacion iiis. iiiid. for every tyme etc.

*Wood.* Item the acte for woode lyinge in the stretes to be executed etc.

<sup>2</sup>*Fees to bearewards and players.* Item it is agreed that frome henceforthe there shall not bee anye fees or rewards gevon by the Chamber of this towne, nor anye of the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> nor XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> to be charged with anye payments, for or towards anye bearewards, bearebaytings, players, playes, enterludes or games, or anye of theym (except the Quenes maiesties; or the Lords of the Privy Counsell): nor that anye players bee suffred att the Towne hall (except before except) and then butt onelye before the Mayor and his bretherne, uppon payne of xls. to be lost by the Mayor that shall suffer or doe to the contrarye, to be levied by his successor upon payne of *vli*. if he make default therein etc.

(p. 363.) (*Freedom.*) (Reenforces the act of Feb. 25, 1575 (p. 156 above), on the charge of £5 to admit a stranger to the freedom.)

<sup>1</sup> There are with it two copies of a similar letter from P. Freake, Mayor, Feb. 24 (1581).

<sup>2</sup> Cf. Kelly's *Notices*, p. 209, for this and the next two entries.

*Waytes.* Item it is agreed y<sup>at</sup> euerye inhabiter or howsekeper in Leicester (beinge of reasonable abylytye) shalbe taxed (att the discreccion of Mr Mayor) what they shall quarterlye geve to waytes towards the amendinge of there lyvinge. In consyderacion whereof the said waytes shall kepe the towne, and to playe euerye night and morninge orderlye, boethe wynter and somer, and not to go forthe of the towne to playe except to fayres or weddings then by the license of Mr Mayor.

*Muzicions.* Item that no estraungers, viz. waytes, mynstrells or other muzicions whatsoever, be suffered to playe within this towne, neyther att weddings, or fayor tymes, or anye other tymes whatsoever.

*Usher of the schole.* Item it is ordered that all suche persons as nowe have, or hereafter shall have anye children taught att the free-schole (being estraungers) shall geve yerelye some reasonable contrebucion, towards the lyvinge of the underussher, by the consent of Mr Mayor for the tyme beinge etc.

(p. 364.) *Recorder's Chamber.* [Feb. 22, 1583.] (Common hall order to the Chamberlains to furnish it: see Chamberlains' account.)

(p. 365.) [Feb. 22, 1583.] *No allowance to y<sup>e</sup> Collector of the xv<sup>th</sup>.* Item it ys ordered and agreed, that frome henceforthe there shalbee no more alowance given to the collector of the xv<sup>th</sup> of the Towne of Leicester, towards his charges for the payment of the same fyftene and tenthe.

*For y<sup>e</sup> waytes wages*<sup>1</sup>. Item it is further agreed and ordered that the xxiiii<sup>ti</sup> shall euerye of them geve xiiid. a quarter, and the xlviii<sup>ti</sup> eurye of them vid. a quarter to the waytes, for there wages, and all other the inhabitants in Leicester to bee taxed by the mayor from tyme to tyme, what they shall euerye of theym geve quarterlye to the sayd waytes, foer and towards there wages. And that noe straungers, being mewzicions or waytes, or other persons whatsoever beinge either muzicions or players, althoughe they doe or shall dwell within the towne of Leicester, and bee not of the companye of the Towne waytes, shall not be suffred to playe (p. 366) within the aforesaid towne of Leicester att anye tyme or tymes in the yeare, att or in a mans howsse, dore, wyndowe, or att anye weddings (or bryde howsses), (the time of the generall assyses within the towne of Leicester only excepted), and then to playe butt onlye to straungers. Provided allwayes that the said towne waytes shall kepe the towne,

<sup>1</sup> Quoted in Kelly's *Notices* p. 134.

and doe there dutye in playinge aboute the towne boethe eveninge and morninge, contynuallye and orderlye at reasonable and season[able] tymes.

*How victualls shalbe assised if the head officer be a victualler.*  
Item yt ys agreed that he, that shall hereafter bee chossen to bee mayor, beinge a victualler, that then there shalbee twoe of the companye that bee no victualers, chossen accordinge to the statuet in that case made and provyded, and to be sworne with the maior to assyce the price of victualls: and that the seid mayor shall not withoute the consent of the seid twoe persons alter anye assyce of vycuall or alter anye measure etc.

*Persons remeyninge in ale howsses after the curfer bell hath rounge.*  
Item yt ys further ordered and agreed that the keper of anye alehowse or tiplinge howsse, that shall suffer any townes men, to remeyne in there howsse after the curffer bell hath<sup>1</sup> rounge, without a lawfull cause, to bee proved before the mayor or aldermen, shall forfytt and paye to the use of the corporacion the som of xii*d*. to be payed presentlye, or els to remayne in warde for that night etc. att the choyse of the offender therein.

*Mr Hallam.* Memorandum. Mr Thomas Hallam, whoe hath byn twyse mayor of this towne of Leicester, departed this worlde on Mondeye in Easter weeke, the fyrst of Aprill 1583.

(p. 366.) (Note of the dissolution of parliament, Ap. 20, 1583.)

(p. 367.) [May 3, 1583.] Memorandum that vppon Fridaye the thirde daye of Maye, 1583, certen of the xxiiii<sup>tie</sup> assembled at the Hall for certen cawses, viz. (the Mayor and 9 others named).

Agreed vpon by theym as followeth:—

*For the visited.* First that euerye one of the xxiiii<sup>ti</sup> shall paye xii*d*. apeece for three weekes to begyn on Mondaye next commynge, beinge the vi daye of Maye, towards the kepinge of the vizited folke.

Item the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> to paye *vid.* apeece in like sorte.

Item the commeneres and inhabitantes to bee taxed for the same accordinge to there callinges and habilityes. This sessment in this sorte hath past for three weekes allreadye endinge the said vi daye of Maye. And is to contynue in force from three weekes to three weekes, vntill hit please God to seasse the same.

(p. 368.) [June 12, 1583.] *Mr Villers.* Memorandum att this metinge, Blace Vyllers merchaunte of the stable<sup>2</sup> of England and free of the Cyttye of London, was made free of the Corporacion of the

<sup>1</sup> MS. *that*.

<sup>2</sup> staple.

towne of Leicester, and sworne his fyne for his fredom ten shillinges etc.

The same daye the said Mr Villers, made one of the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> and sworne, and then nominated to bee one of the Mayors Bretherne.

And also it was then agreed he shoulde paye to the Chamber of the towne of Leicester, for his fyne for the redempcion of this Chamberlynshipp, and for that he was presently to bee preferred to the Bentehe, 1s.

[June 18, 1583.] Memorandum that this daye in the open courte, the aforesaid Mr Villers, and allso Roger Stringer and Will<sup>m</sup> Yates, were all preferred to the Benche made of the compaynye of the XXIII<sup>th</sup>, and seuerallye sworne, as they cam to y<sup>e</sup> courte etc.

(p. 369.) [July 19, 1583.] *Newe waytes appoynted.* Memorandum that vpon Fridaye the xix<sup>th</sup> of Julye 1583, there should have bene a Commen Hall, at which tyme there dyd meete but only these persons vnder wrytton, of the Bretherne viz.:—Mr Mayor, Mr Manbye, Mr Heyricke, Mr Tatam, Mr James Clarke, Mr Robt. Heyrycke, Mr George Noryce, Mr Chettle, Mr Vyllers. And of the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> these viz.:—John Byddle, one of the Chamberlyns, Thomas Wylne, Rychard Orton and Lebyas Chamberlyn. By whom yt was agreed that the muzicions Mr Gryffyns servauntes should be admitted and appoynted the towne waytes: and to have suche wages or sallarye as the towne waytes heretofore have had etc. And yt was than ordred that the collers should bee delyuered vnto theym. Takinge of euery of theym two townesmen for pledges for there collers<sup>1</sup>.

(p. 378.) *For drinckinge of Ale, in Ale Howses.* Also yt is ordered that the Acte made in the seconde tyme of the Meyraltie of Mr Willm. Noryce for tiplinge and drincke in blacke pottes and other pottes called mugges<sup>2</sup> shalbee in euery poynt executed. And that there shalbe certen persons appoynted and sworne to looke yerto and to present they defaltes, who shall have half the profyttes for there labor<sup>3</sup>.

*For night walkers.* And also yt is appoynted that the acte or order for night walkers shall bee also putt in execucion.

*For the Waytes.* Item it is agreed that the waytes and there boyes shall have cotes bought them, and ii skutchyns or sincke fyles<sup>4</sup> to be made for the boyes to were with lace aboute there neckes etc.

<sup>1</sup> A note of the purchase of bed-clothes etc. for the Recorder's Chamber follows, p. 370. See Chamberlains' Account below, p. 195.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 181 above.

<sup>3</sup> On p. 379 the names of the six searchers are given.

<sup>4</sup> cinquefoils.

CCXXVII. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1582—3.] *Rents...Receipts...*B. Atton tanner and bell fownder the apprentice of Thos. Newcom tanner and bell founder...Blace Vyllers for his fyne for redempcion of the chamberlynshipp whoe was then presentlye made one of the conburgesses or Jurates...*Summa...* £86. 8s. 9d.

*Gyftes...*Mighelmas daye at the walkinge of the fayor at the tole boeth<sup>1</sup> for all then drancke 6d....Earle of Derbies players more (etc.) 15s....4 Oct. to a pursivant that brought a writt and proclamacions for the reiornyng<sup>2</sup> of parte of Mighellmas terme...from mens' (*sic*) Michaelis<sup>3</sup> untill Cro (*sic*) Animarum<sup>4</sup> and then to be kept at Hartforde Castell...George Warde Beareward and the Erle of Huntingdons man and to one other beinge Sir Christopher Hattons man and a beareward at Mr Mayors dynner more (etc.) 7s....Earle of Huntingdon...at Leicester ...on twelf day...Sir G. Hastings players...my Lady Varnon at her goinge to London in Marche...cakes, sugar, figges and allmonds...Mr F. Hastings at Mr Sampsons 24 Julye...Quenes maiesties playors more (etc.) 38s. 4d.

*Fees...*three mattes for the Recorders chamber 22d....for russhes for the same...a trundle bedd readie corded<sup>5</sup> for the Recorders chamber 4s. 8d....paynetinge or newe colloringe of the chamberlyns staves...to a pore man to sett hym forth of the towne which cam from Northampton to have dwelt here in Leicester 2s....a feyther bedd ticke for the bedd in the Recorder's chamber at the hall 14s. 6d. twoe bowlsters...6s....one pillowe...2s. 8d....for fyve stonne and 1 pounce of feythers for the same at 5s. 4d. a stonne...26s. 9d....16 elnes of silcke wooll for a coveredd for the bedd...at 1s. 6d. the elne 24s....one wooll mattris...8s....one other mattris therefore 5s....a coveredd for his mans bedd viz. the trundle bedd there...4 yards of darnyx<sup>6</sup> for a carpitt for the parler 8s. 8d....

*Total summe* £74. 4s. 3d....so there remeyneth... £12. 4s. 6d.

(A note that the furniture of the Recorder's chamber remains to the use of the corporation and is yearly to be recorded in the account of the Mayors for the better remembrance thereof.)

<sup>1</sup> toll-booth.

<sup>2</sup> adjourning.

<sup>3</sup> Michaelmas month.

<sup>4</sup> The morrow (crastino) of All Souls' Day.

<sup>5</sup> for travelling.

<sup>6</sup> Dornick, a stuff originally made at Tournay, in Flemish Dornick (?).

CCXXVIII. *Muster of Horsemen*<sup>1</sup>.

Hall Papers I, No. 23. [Sep. 29, 1583.] Letter from Brian Cave, High Sheriff, and Henry Skipwith, to the Mayor, telling him that the Council charge the town with two demilances and four light horsemen, to be raised from the wealthiest of the town or corporation, to be ready at a day's warning. If refused, the neglect must be answered to the Council Oct. 7.

Hall Papers I, No. 6. [Sep. 30, 1583.] A lettre sent to Mr Mayor under the hands of Bryan Cave the high sherif and of Mr Skipwythe, charginge the towne there...in the Counsellis name with ii demylaunces and iiii lighthorsemen: whereupon (Oct. 1) the Mayor caused certen of his brethern to meete him att the hall...whoes conclusion was to send to the Recorder there lettre towchinge the answeringe thereof.

CCXXIX. *Examinations before Justices.*

Hall Papers I, No. 4. [Jan. 21, 1584.] (Journeymen shoemakers called before the Justices of the Peace under the Statute of Labourers, servants etc. and registered.)

Ibid. No. 56. [Feb. 7, 1584.] <sup>2</sup>W<sup>m</sup> Poole examyned vpon his sermond made in St Martyns Churche y<sup>is</sup> daye: whoe saith he hathe a cure in Lincolnshier at a towne called Bonbrowghe<sup>3</sup>, before Mr Tho. Clarke, Mr Herick, Mr Jn. Clarke, Mr Morton.

Beinge demaunded whye he dyd not praye for the Queenes Majestie neither at the begynnynge nor endinge of his sermond, was partly for brevyty or shortnes of his sermond and partely for forgetfulnes.

Also he sayth that he hard Doctor Norton preych at St Marye Tower in Yp[s]wych and take for his texte †omnia Rarum carn' vili licit quotodanum etc.†<sup>4</sup>

Item he chose his texte this daie out of Ecclesiasticus chap. 41, verce 3, which is not canannycall<sup>5</sup> scripture.

Item he preached at Wymeswold on Sondaye last, his texte y<sup>en</sup> "owe nothings to any man" etc.

Also at Montsorell on Wensdaye his texte "no man can serve ii masters etc."

Item he sayth his wyf is in Derbyshier at Bowser alias Bowes-

<sup>1</sup> This letter is given in full in Thompson's *Leicester* p. 264.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. Thompson's *Leicester* p. 269.

<sup>3</sup> Baumber.

<sup>4</sup> An attempt to reproduce a Latin text which is unidentifiable in this form.

<sup>5</sup> canonical.



worth v myles from Chestrefeld, her name is Katheren : and is with her father there, called John Mellar a tayllor.

Item he sayth he was at his cure within this monethe, and there taryed iii or iiij dayes and he hathe served there synce Michelltyde was a twelve monethe.

Item he served before y<sup>at</sup> in Suffolke, at Brightwell a little from Ipeswyche, he hathe used to preache a dosson yeres : yet hathe no license etc.

Item he was hyred by one Thomas Deighton of Waddingworth in com. Lincoln to serve at the Churche of Waddingworth and Banbrowghe, to serve hym for 8*li.* for the one, and 6*li.* 13*s.* 4*d.* for y<sup>e</sup> other, and the sayd benyfyce is iii myles from Hornecastell.

Beinge further examined : He saythe he doeth recognise the Quenes Majestie Elizabeth to be the supreme governer of this realme etc. This forseyd examine discharged.

#### CCXXX. *Borough Wardship.*

Hall Book II, p. 380. [Feb. 8, 1584.] A glover, for 20*s.*, agrees to take an orphan boy and keep him as his own child, without further cost to the town, till he is of years of discretion, and then take him as an apprentice, or keep him at school as well as if he were his own child, "if he will take learning."

#### CCXXXI. *Letters to the Mayor.*

Portfolio of Letters, No. 1<sup>1</sup>. [Feb. 14, 1584.] The brothers and sisters of a prisoner's wife petition the Mayor and Justices for his release, conditionally on his forsaking "his lewd and naughty life both unto God and unto the world."

Hall Papers I, No. 36. [March 2, 1584.] Letters from Chippingdale<sup>2</sup> to the Mayor urging that an annuity be provided for the preacher. Illegible in part: in full in Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 268.

Portfolio of Letters, No. 2. [March 11, 1584.] Henry Turvile to Thomas Clark, Mayor, craves the release of Thos. Dunnethorpe son of his servant, not that he favours the offender whose looseness and misgoverned life he is acquainted with, but for the poor father's sake. "In truth you know by that wisdome which God hath given you how intollerable it is to an honest fater to have a dissolute child, and also the brittle state of our lyfe that no man lyving, be he never so perfecte, canne guarantee the conditions and fortune of those which succede him."

A note (March 20) that security was given for the offender to appear at the next sessions.

<sup>1</sup> Red ink numbers.

<sup>2</sup> A D.C.L. of All Souls, who took his degree 1573, Wood, *Fasti Oxon.* i. 194. In 1610-11 he was the bishop of Lincoln's commissary, North, *Accounts of Churchwardens of St Martin's*, p. 153. From 1575-1609 he held the prebend of Welton Ryval.

CCXXXII. *The Master of the Revels<sup>1</sup> and the Earl of Worcester's Players.*

Hall Papers I, No. 42. [March 3, 1584.] Certain players, calling themselves servants of the Queen's Master of the Revels asked leave to play and shewed their licence from Edm. Tilney, Master of the Revels, and Geo. Haysell of Wisbech (dated Feb. 6, 1583) ordering the local authorities not to "disorderly intrude" and "presume to show forth any plays, interludes, tragedies, comedies or shows" without E. Tilney's order. Haysel is the chief player.

On March 6 the Earl of Worcester's men denied the authority of the afore-named players. (The whole is in Kelly's *Notices of the Drama in Leicester* pp. 211-2).

Ibid. No. 38. The Earl of Worcester's licence to his players (Edw. Allen and others named) dated Jan. 14, 1584, and witnessed by the Mayor of Leicester and others.

The Mayor refused them leave to play on March 6, the time being not convenient, and gave them an angel (10s.). They determined to play at their inn in spite of him, and went with drums and trumpets through the town and contemned the Mayor. They submitted and begged the Mayor not to tell their master, and so on submission were licensed to play at their inn on March 6, making apology, and showing on the stage before the play began that they were licensed. (In full in Kelly's *Notices*, pp. 213-4.)

CCXXXIII. *Minutes of Common Hall.*

Hall Book II, p. 381. [March 13, 1584.] (Chamberlains' account read.)

*Towchinge two bills of debte.* Item at this accompt there was some<sup>2</sup> falt founde towchinge two bills of debt (for two freedoms not paid).

*Towchinge Mr Johnson y<sup>e</sup> Preacher.* Item it is ordered that the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> and XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> shall yerely emongest them, geve somme yerely porcion or sallerye<sup>3</sup> to Mr Johnson the preacher, towards his better maynetenaunce, together with other inhabitantes, in the towne.

*Forr pavinge and for inmates and newe commers to the towne.* Item yt ys ordered, that the aunncyent actes, for pavinge and for inmates, and newe commers to this towne, be in all poyntes fullye and severelye executed<sup>4</sup>.

Hall Papers I, p. 2. [*A freedom disputed.*] †Memorandum Mr John Stanford found himself greved for the plasinge and making free of Mr Villers son in suche sorte as he is ‡ and many moc of the same mynde.

<sup>1</sup> See Chamberlains' Account, below, p. 205.

<sup>2</sup> Another version in Hall Papers I, No. 2, says "great falt."

<sup>3</sup> In Hall Papers I, No. 2, "some yerly consyderacion yerly amongst them" etc.

<sup>4</sup> In Hall Papers I, No. 2, the act of paving to be fully executed. "Mr Mayor sall deale therein with all severity." For the Acts see above, pp. 102, 118, 130, 176.

Hall Book II, p. 382. *Brewers.* Item yt ys ordered, and the rather for the repressinge of strounge Ale: That the Brewers shall proceade with an ordynall<sup>1</sup>, accordinge to the order set downe in Mr Freakes meyraltie<sup>2</sup> etc.

*Leasinge of the Towne Land.* Item it is ordered that the Mayor with sixe of the aunycyentest of the Bretherne, and the Chamberlyns, shall have the leasinge, settinge and ordringe of suche of the towne land within the towne, as is oute of lease, or neire oute of lease, for the better mayneteninge of the same lande<sup>3</sup>.

*For the Waytes.* Item it is ordered that the waytes shall have frome henceforth xii*d.* a quarter of the xxiii*ti*, and vi*d.* a quarter of the xlviii*ti*<sup>3</sup>, besydes the Commeners and inhabitantes. And not to goe forthe of the towne to play, withoute lycense, neither anye straungers to be suffred to playe within the towne.

*The Crosse.* Item it is ordered that non shall hereafter, either dust, dresse or wyndowe<sup>4</sup> anye malt, or other corne in the Crosse, or hange any cloathes, or other thinges in or vpon the said Crosse: vpon peyne of xii*d.* for everye defaulte etc.<sup>5</sup>

*For Turley, mercer, iiis. per annum*<sup>5</sup>. Item that wheras one Robt. Turley of Reyrisbye in the county of Leicester, mercer, was made free of the towne of Leicester, in the tyme of the meyraltie of Mr Fowler, whoe ever sithence hath vsed our markytt, and not at any tyme paid any lott or scott, or other yerlye annuities for his libertie in that behalf: Hit is nowe ordered and agreed that he shall from henceforth paye to the Chamberlyns to thuce<sup>6</sup> of the Chamber of the towne of Leicester iiis. a yere, yerlye duringe his lyfe: wherof to paye iis. in hand, and afterwarde quarterlye xii*d.*

*For an Alderman.* Item it is ordered that Mr John Eyricke shall from henceforth be the Alderman of Galtree Gate warde<sup>7</sup>.

*Another.* Also it is ordered that Mr Morton shalbe Alderman from henceforth of the ward called the Swyndes Markytt, and in his absence Mr Ellys deputye<sup>7</sup>.

Hall Papers I, No. 7. (Names of those consenting to the aiding of Gaddesby's wife in her suit<sup>8</sup> if the title be good to the town. Mr Mayor his mark (and others).)

<sup>1</sup> See No. CCXLII below.

<sup>2</sup> See above, p. 189.

<sup>3</sup> In Hall Papers I, No. 2.

<sup>4</sup> winnow.

<sup>5</sup> In Hall Papers I, No. 2*b*, in a shorter form. There it is followed thus: Item yt ys ordered and agreed that the Clarke and Mace bearer shall eyther of them have these offyces by paten(t) and to be penynd (i.e. penned) and considered by Mr Recorder. (W. Dethick gives a bond of £100 to be a true, diligent and faithful servant in his office.)

<sup>6</sup> the use.

<sup>7</sup> In Hall Papers I, No. 2*b*, shorter.

<sup>8</sup> See pp. 184-5.

Hall Book II, p. 383. [March 31, 1584.] *Ex parte vidue Gaddesbye. At the Assices next after nothings herein done for that the Recorder did not like thereof etc.*<sup>1</sup> Firste it is agreed that Master Mayor with the advice of the Recorder shall reteyne a Counciller in the behalf of goodwief Gaddesbie at the charges of the Towne, ageynst the Assicees followinge: Towchinge her suyte ageynst Mr Stanford, at which Hall, the dede to her made, by Redymans wief, for the conveyinge of Gaddesbies land, accordinge to his will, was openly readd.

*For Myllners*<sup>2</sup>. Item yt ys agreed that the Acte or Restrent for Milners, for buyinge of corne, on the market dayes, which was made in the tyme of the Meyraltie of Master Myddleton, shall stand in force, and bee in all poyntes put in execucion.

#### CCXXXIV. *Discovery of suspected books.*

Hall Papers I, No. 68. [May 12, 1584.] Examination of Green the carrier of certain books, contrary to the Act of Uniformity, and proposing reforms. In full in Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 269.

Ibid. No. 29. [May 15, 1584.] Mayor's letter to Sir F. Walsingham concerning the same. In full in Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 269 sq. (In note read "to the grievance" instead of "for the government.")

#### CCXXXV. *The Earl of Huntingdon and the Clothier.*

Hall Papers I, Nos. 30 and 31. [June 2, 1584.] Two drafts of a letter from the Mayor and Company to the Earl, in full in Thompson's *Leicester*, pp. 265-6. (misdated). Bradgate the clothier has fallen into decay. To relieve the poor, they propose that Blase Villers a merchant of the staple and one of the company, shall have £100 of the common charge of the town to set the poor to work on spinning; he will fetch some from Berwick who shall cause "bayeres"<sup>3</sup> to be made here. He has already set the poor on work at his own charges, till the plague last summer made him give over. Will his lordship give him the money for two years or more or order the Company that it stands with his liking? Thereby the poor here will be readier for the clothier if any be placed here. If not, £100 will be delivered to the Earl for the use of Bradgate.

Ibid. No. 32. [June 16, 1584.] Letter from the same to the same sending £100 and urging the choice of a sufficient clothier.

Hall Papers I, No. 9. [May 5, 1584.] A list of such of the Four-and-twenty as consented to answer the Earl's letter for lending £100 to the clothier. It was thought best to take up £100 at interest and levy the loan thereof amongst the xxiv, xlviii and commons. Signatures made by marks.

<sup>1</sup> Hall Papers I, No. 18.

<sup>2</sup> Hall Papers I, No. 18. For the Act see above, pp. 174-5.

<sup>3</sup> baize.

CCXXXVI. *Minutes of Common Hall.*

Hall Book II, p. 384. [June 2, 1584.] (A hall specially summoned by the Mayor: Mr Hyende sworn in as one of the XXIIII.)

*Towchinge Mr Hyende.* Item yt ys agreed that wheras the said Mr Hyende was fyned at the last electyon of the Mayor, for his dissobeadyence to his Mayor before that tyme & then done (viz.) to Mr Morton then Mayor, at the summe of *vli.* that all the same fyne shalbe forgyven hym, savinge onlye *xs.*, which he hath nowe payd vpon his submyssyon, and so receyved orderlye emongest the seid Companye ageyne. The which *xs.* is gevon towards the repayringe of the well neyre St Martyns Church.

*Nantewiche.* Item whereas there hath of late bene greate hurte done at the towne of Nantewyche, by fyere: Itt ys nowe therefore agreed (in respecte of somme releefe towards there losse), that collectyon bee presentlye made here for the same. To which losse the XXIIII<sup>ti</sup> have agreed to geve *xiiid.* apece and the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> *viid.* And all the Commonners and inhabitantes to bee sessed, vnder the rate for post horsse etc.<sup>1</sup>

*For the Coles*<sup>2</sup>. Item yt ys agreed that Mr George Tatam shall have still the dealinge for the coles vntill Maye Daye next comynge. And then to delyver vpp vnto the Mayor (p. 385) and Chamberlaynes of the towne of Leicester the wholl stocke, whych is *lviiid.* *xiiiiis.* *iiiiid.* ob. And for the increase for the twoe yeaes past, which he hathe had the dealinge in, *xlis.* And also, the<sup>3</sup> hath promysed to geve for thincrease thereof for the seid last yere to bee ended at May Daye next *iiiiid.* The wholl somme whereof comythe to *iii<sup>xx</sup>iiiiid.* *xiiiiis.* *iiiiid.* ob. (etc.).

Hall Papers I, No. 16. (A view or search made June 2, 1584, of masters and servants and inmates, to carry out the inmates' law<sup>4</sup>.)

Hall Book II, p. 385. *The Earle of Leicester.* Nota, that the Earle of Leicester came to the towne of Leicester of Thursdays the xviii<sup>th</sup> daie of June<sup>5</sup> anno supradicto and then laye at therle of Huntingdons housse at which tyme his sister the Countys of Huntingdon dyd receyve him there.

At this his comynge to Leicester, (from the Bathes<sup>6</sup> oute of Derbyshier) he cam into Leicester by the Abbye<sup>7</sup>, vpp the Abbye

<sup>1</sup> In Hall Papers I, No. 10.

<sup>2</sup> Hall Papers I, No. 10. "Greate speche abowte the coles and monye and concluded as followeth." <sup>3</sup> the = they. <sup>4</sup> See pp. 102, 198.

<sup>5</sup> The same note in Hall Papers I, No. 11. See Nichols, *Progresses of Elizabeth* II. 421, and Kelly, *Royal Progresses* p. 305.

<sup>6</sup> Buxton.

<sup>7</sup> The road from Derby is now by Belgrave.

Gate, the Northe Gate, and hie streete to the hie Crosse, where (ageynst the schoole howsse) the Mayor, his Bretherne and the eight and fortye mett his honour but not in skarlett. The preysent geven to hym was: A hoggesheade of clarett wyne: which cost *iiii/l. 10s.* And two verye fatt oxen, which cost *xx<sup>ti</sup>* marks.

(p. 386.) Also his honor gave twentie nobles to be distributed emongest the pore people in Leicester, the whiche was distributed accordinglye.

The nombre of the seid pore was then *viii<sup>e</sup> xviii<sup>tene</sup>* persons and it cam to *1*l.* ob.* a pece younge and old and *xviii*l.** over in every warde, and was distributed by Mr Mayor, Mr Sparkes and Mr Johnson preachers and others of the Aldermen.

Also to these out of the same: The Newe Hospitall<sup>1</sup> *iiis.*

The Old Hospitall<sup>2</sup> *vs.*

The prisoners of the Countye and Brydewell *iiis.*<sup>3</sup>

Also his honour did geve vnto the twoe Companyes viz. the *xxiiii<sup>ti</sup>* and eight and fortye to be delyvered by his seid sister the Countis of Huntingdon, *vi* bucks.

Also his honour staied but one night in Leicester and was gown of the Friday morninge by fyve of the clocke etc.

[June 22, 1584.] (Hall to consider how to meet the charges of the visit.

The 24 to give *6s. 8*d.** each, the 48 *3s. 4*d.**, "and all the best commeners and inhabitants to be sessed towards the same, together with the Bisshoppes Fee, accordinge to our compozicion<sup>4</sup>.)"

#### CCXXXVII. *Letter to the Earl of Huntingdon touching a loan.*

Hall Papers I, No. 35 [undated]. <sup>5</sup>The Mayor and Company to the Earl of Huntingdon. The Earl has written as to the delivery of his money for coals to relieve the poor. Geo. Tatham is responsible, and rendered account. The greater part was already spent in coals and carriage so that he could not make present payment, and he was directed to make account to the Earl. They hope the money may be continued: if not they will repay.

#### CCXXXVIII. *Police Descriptions.*

Hall Papers I, No. 70. [July 12, 1584.]

Memorandum that this daye beinge Sondaye aboute v or vi of the clock at night Godfrey Cowper one of the constables of the towne

<sup>1</sup> Wigston's.

<sup>2</sup> Trinity Hospital, in the Newark.

<sup>3</sup> Details of the account in Hall Papers I, Nos. 14, 15.

<sup>4</sup> Also in Hall Papers I, Nos. 12, 13, with a note that the Earl left on Friday at 5 a.m.

<sup>5</sup> In full in Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 287.

of Leicester did receyve a byll for hewe and crye to be made, in these wordes, viz. To make serche for one man that roade on a baye nagge; his apparell was a whyte cloke, a whyte hatt with a band of gold or copper, with a starr in his face<sup>1</sup>. Item to serche for one other man that roode on a blacke nagge, a blacke cloke and a blacke hatt withoute a band, which hathe robbed certen men in the forest of Shyrwood. To Lester and so on to London way. By force whereof the seyde constable presently within the seyde towne of Leicester abowte his dore, mett with a young man, rydinge on a baye or blacke sorrell nagge, with a grey or whytyshe grey cloke and the like colored hatt, the band of sylver or copper, whose name as he seythe ys George Hardye. He seythe he servethe Mr Beyvercotes of Beyvercotes in Nottinghamshier x myles beyond Newarke vpon Trent, and his master is nowe at Glaston, and he came from there this mornynge to Mr Rudynges with a sleve of drawe work delyvred to M<sup>ris</sup> Rudinges to be wraught by one in Leicester.

Mr Mayor sent Thomas Worship to make tryall thereof to Mr Rudinges and found his examination true, whereupon he was discharged. And the bill of hue and crye sent forwardes London waye.

Ibid. No. 73. [Sep. 21, 1584.] John Lynsey seythe that the partye underwritten viz. Robson doethe owe<sup>2</sup> the hatt found at Mr Chippingedales, after the robberye done.

Thomas Robson of thage of 3 or 4 and twentye yeres, no beard, a little skarre of one syde of his chynn, a reasonable tall fellowe, his apparell was a payre of leyther hoose, and a jerkyn of russett cloth, muche lyke a chippes<sup>3</sup> russett.

W<sup>m</sup> Quynnton who was borne abowt Townge, companyon with the said Robson, he hathe a litle heyre on his face, and is somewhat a loe, well sett fellowe, his apparell (blank).

Ibid. No. 74. Theyse shalbe in the Queenes Maiesties name to charge yow to make diligent search and enquiry of ii men in syde russet clokes, with sleeves and buttons vpon the sholders, either of them havinge a sworde by his syde, and the one wearinge vpon his heade a blewyshe hatt; one of them dyd ryde vpon a dun geldinge or dunnyshe mare, but rather supposed to be a mare, havinge a flaxon mane and teyle; also one of them hadd vpon his vpper lyppe longe feakes<sup>4</sup> sumwhat reddishe; the other rydd vpon a geldinge or mare sumwhat reddishe.

<sup>1</sup> i.e. the horse's face.

<sup>2</sup> own.

<sup>3</sup> ?

<sup>4</sup> dangling curls of hair.

Also to inquire after a stolen nagge or geldinge, fayor, whyte dappled graye amblinge, and beinge a verye brode nagge goinge oppon with all his feete, and havinge before certen freaken<sup>1</sup> spottes; the nagge ys nyne or ten yeres of age.

### CCXXXIX. *Shoemakers' Ordinal.*

Hall Papers I, No. 19. [Aug. 4, 1584.] The steward and wardens of the corvisers search for defective wares by force of the Ordinal. List of those presented for offences. The wares tried by 6 Jurati.

Of the forfeit money "given to the triers, to drink, to a blind woman that went to work by passport, to the first searchers or finders, to a poor soldier which came out of Ireland."

### CCXL. *Minutes of a Common Hall.*

Hall Book II, p. 391. [Sep. 21, 1584.] *Towchinge Mr Will<sup>m</sup> Worshipp*. Item it is agreed that Mr Will<sup>m</sup> Worshipp shall have sparinge from beinge in eleccion to be Mayor, for iiij yeres followinge wherevpon he hath promysed to delyver his bond that if he dye before, or do not serve the office then beinge elected to geve to the Chamber of the towne ten poundes etc.

Hall Papers I, No. 17. [Sep. 23, 1584.] [*Clothier.*] Agreed to lend the clothier £100 for two years on Armstrong's bond, to set the poor on work and also to set our neighbours on work "as weyvors and fullers bringing one on eyther sorte to teache them." (Notes on the wool brought (v<sup>o</sup>), injured by damp.)

Hall Book II, p. 392. [Sep. 29, 1584.] *pro Hitche. Inn Signs*. Item was ordered on the daye within wrytton, that John Hitche shalbe a Brewar and victuler, as other victulers are, but not an Inkeper viz. not to sett oute anye signe or signe post.

Ibid. p. 396. *The Clothier<sup>2</sup>*. Item it is agreed to have a hundred poundes taken vppe, for the Clothiar, and that the interest for the same, shalbe yerelye levyed vppe of the Companyes & Commynaltye. And that there shalbe suche assurance made to the partye which shall lende the same, as shalbe thoughte good by the Recorder.

Item that the seid Clothiar shall have the seid hundred poundes for twoe yeres, and after lenger, as his dealinge shall be lyked of etc.

<sup>1</sup> dappled.

<sup>2</sup> Also Hall Papers I, No. 83.



CCXII. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1583—4.] *Rents...Receipts...*F. Tyllinge copper smyth, a maker of copper sturropps and spurres, for his freedom...ocupacion of cordwainers...the foure and twentye towards certen chargies the Towne hath byn att (at the Earle of Leycester beinge here)...22 June 26 Eliz....foure and twentye towards the chargies of the first eatinge of the venyson gevon by the Earle of Leicester 2s. 6d., save of Mr Manbye nothing, for that he sentt wyne and sugar, and of Mr James Clarke nothings...eight and fortye towards the same, 1s. 3d. a peece, save that nothings receved of Roger Vickars, for that he was dead before the same was collected...the seconde eatinge...Receyved of the 24 and 48 and commoners for Nantwyche<sup>1</sup> whiche was never demanded...£3. 0s. 6d....stewards of the fayors...and geven towards the bordinge of the schoole £1. 19s. 10½d. Item receyved of the boyes of the seid schoole towards the same use, the some of 16s. 10d....of other boyes of the seid schoole towards the mendinge of a wyndowe broken at the shuttinge of there Master forthe of the same schoole 1s. 4d....Erle of Leycester...whiche he gave to the pore in Leicester...£6. 13s. 4d....

*The totall somme* £124. 19s. 3d.

*Payments...*23 Oct. paid for the chargies of the Earle of Huntingdon at his being at Leicestre for a supper and a breakefast and for a guide to Northampton to bringe the horssees backe ageyne then lent his honor thither 58s. 8d....George Warde Beareward att Mr Mayor's dinner...Earle of Essex players more (etc.) 4s....Recorders chargies...6s. 8d....gevon to certen players beinge sarvants to the Master of the Revellx more (etc.) 2s. 6d....6 March...gevon to the Erle of Wosters players 10s.<sup>2</sup>...Countis of Huntingdon by Mistris Meyris and her systers...one pound and 2 oz. of muske comfitts...synomonnd<sup>3</sup> comfitts...a fatt steire geven to the seid Countis by Mr Mayor and his brethern £5. 6s. 8d....two fatt oxen geven to the Earle of Leycester by Mr Mayor and his bretherne at his beinge att Leicester 18 June, £13. 7s. 8d....a hogges head of clarett wyne then also geven to his honor £4. 10s. 0d....Erle of Oxford players...thearle of Arrundellx playours more (etc.) 4s....chargies of the fyrst eatinge of the venyson geven by the seid Earle of Leycester the somme of £6. 2s. 8d....second eatinge...£5. 0s. 6d.

<sup>1</sup> See above, p. 201.

<sup>2</sup> See above, pp. 197-8.

<sup>3</sup> cinnamon.

*Fees*...clothe for the weytes and biddells<sup>1</sup> cootes 48s....cloth for cootes for the weites boyes 20s....russches for the parler at the hall 5*d*.  
 ...Judges at the two generall gaole delyveries for there fees for sittinge within this toune whiche hath byn used to be paid by the Bayllif 20s.  
 ...a gunn or calyvour 11s....kepinge the toune harnes...them that ware armor and attended of Mr Mayor...chargies in sendinge upp to the Counsell certen pamflits or printed papers that Grene the carrier<sup>2</sup> brought from London, not knowinge for whom, whiche tended to the state or alteracion of the dissiphyne or orders in the churche, in the discharge of this towne, wherein was muche troble and attendance first at the Courte, then being at Grenewitch, and afterwarde before the Lorde Mayor of the Cittye of London 25*s*. 1*d*....distributed emongest the poore in Leicester which was geven by the Earle of Leycestre...£6. 13*s*. 4*d*.

*Reparacions*...on the hiewaye on the backside of my lords housse<sup>3</sup> 4*s*. 8*d*....skowringe the poole or water in the Southgate beinge 5 laborers about the same 2 dayes 6*s*. 8*d*....2 paviers for the repayinge ...of the brigge and pament<sup>4</sup> in Humberston gate 10*s*....bordinge of the schoole and mendinge of one wyndowe at the schole which was broken by the boyes at the shuttinge forth of there master £5. 19*s*. 10*d*.

*Totall*...£119. 11*s*. 3*d*. So there remeyneth...£5. 8*s*. 0*d*.

#### CCXLII. *Letter from the Privy Council to the Mayor*<sup>5</sup>.

Hall Papers I, No. 89. [Oct. 16, 1584.] Whereas it is provided by an act of 5 Mary<sup>6</sup> on musters that no person dwelling in a town corporate being a county in itself or having any J.P. shall be compellable to appear at any muster out of the liberties, unless the head officer of the town and one inhabitant be joined in the Commission, and whereas we are authorized to act as commissioners for the statute of horses, we require you to consider and enquire what persons do inhabit within the liberties that are able to find horses and charge them to have them in readiness. If they refuse you shall command them to appear before us, and certify to us the manner of their contempts and your opinion of their ability. The head officer must name two or three discreet persons inhabiting to act with him. Signed A. Warwyck, E. Lincoln, J. Hunsdon, F. Bedford, C. Howarde, Chr. Hatton, R. Leicester.

<sup>1</sup> beaddles.

<sup>3</sup> Earl of Huntingdon's house.

<sup>5</sup> The registers of the Council are lost 1583—5.

<sup>6</sup> 4 and 5 P. and M. c. 3.

<sup>2</sup> See above, p. 200.

<sup>4</sup> pavement.

Ibid. No. 90. Rob. Heyrick Mayor, 1 demylance.  
 Joh. Tatam, 1 lighthorse.  
 Joh. Stanford, 1 demylance.  
 W. Morton, 1 lighthorse.  
 P. Freake, —  
 W. Noryce, —  
 Byddell, —

CCXLIII. *Minutes of a Common Hall.*

Hall Book II, p. 397. [Oct. 20, 1584.] *The Clothier*<sup>1</sup>. Another metinge of Mr Mayor, and certen of the Bretherne the xx<sup>th</sup> daye of Octobre 1584, for these cawses followinge.

Item, towchinge the assurance, for the repayment of the hundred poundes, borrowed for the Clothiar.

Item it is agreed that the rest of the xxiiii<sup>ti</sup> shall stande bounden to those twoe of the xxiiii<sup>ti</sup> that are bounde for the *cli.*, yf the partye that shall lende it will not take assurance of lande from the Corporacion, as well for the repayment of the seid *cli.*, as also for the payment of the interest yerele.

[*Seditious Books etc.*] Memorandum that this daye the Quenes Maiesties proclamation for the suppressinge of seditious bookes and libells, which dothe remeyne vpon recorde, was proclaymed, accordinge to the wrytt etc.

CCXLIV. *Mayor's letter to the Recorder on the Brewers' Ordinal and the choice of an M.P.*

Hall Papers I, No. 98. [Oct. 1584.] Sir: sithence your goinge to London, I and the most part of my breth[erne]<sup>2</sup> have had consideracion of the brewers ordynall<sup>3</sup>, wherein we have add[ed]<sup>2</sup> in every place to the Mayor, Master and Wardens, the Justicis or the moest of them, to be assistantes therein. So that they doe all verye well like of the boke and are verye willinge to have the same proceade; our request therefore to you ys, that you will first vpon the receipt thereof examyne hit ageyne, and where you fyend any thinge (by reason of our addinge thereto) not to be in good forme, to that then you will amend the forme, and afterwarde that it wold please you to take the

<sup>1</sup> Also in Hall Papers I, No. 85.

<sup>2</sup> torn.

<sup>3</sup> See above, pp. 189, 198.

paynes to exhibyte the seyd boke to Justice Meade, lettinge hym to vnderstand that wee all do like verye well thereof, and are willinge that it shall take effecte, cravinge his fertherance and lauffull favour therein, with most humble thanks for the paynes he hathe heretofore therein taken, not dowbtinge but that thereby, with his good assistance, hit will bringe good order in our towne, and vtterlye to banyshe the filthie drunckennes and greate disorder vsed by reason of the stronge drinck there. Also these are to signifye to you, that vpon Fridaye last three of the Justices did meete at Leicester, viz. Sir Edward Hastings, Mr Brian Cave and Mr Thomas Cave, whoe sent for me to com to them to Mr Ludlams housse and then I and some of my bretherne went to them, whoe then gave vs knowledge that they were by virtue of her majesties commission to charge vs with certen demylances and light horsse<sup>1</sup>. The cople of that parte of the artycles they have from the counsell to charge us with all, I have sent you herein closed with the names of them, they have charged. We have taken daye to answeere them, and what you shall thincke best to be done therein, I praye you advertyce me by your letter so shortlye as you maye.

[v<sup>o</sup>.] Wheras, good Mr Parkyns, vpon Mondaye at night last, there was by one of her majesties messengers, a writt with certen proclamacions for the towne of Leicester ageynst sedycious bookes and lybells<sup>2</sup> brought to me to be proclaymed there, at which tyme I was by the same messenger, gevon to vnderstand, he had the like for the countye of Leicester, with a wrytt for the sommons of the parlyament; for chosinge of knightes, citicens and burgesses for the seid parlyament, the which he seythe is to begyn at the 23 of November next: I have therefore by thadvyce of certen of my bretherne, thought good to wryte vnto you thereof, and for that we are therevpon to chuse twoe newe burgesses, doe let you vnderstand that we mean by Godes suffraunce to chuse you to bee one of them, if your good will (as we hope well) be thereunto: Doe therefore moste hartely request you rather to take the same vpon you and for vs then for any other place, for we make accompt if you be not chosen for vs, that you wilbe chosen for Nottingham: and for that cause have thought ytt good to lett you vnderstande our myendes thereunto before, that your promysse maye not otherwyse be paste. And for that we wold gladlye have one chosen to you, as you shold have good lykeinge of doe now certefie your myend therein, so

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<sup>1</sup> See above, p. 206.

<sup>2</sup> See above, p. 207.

shortlye as you conveyentlye maye. Thus [we]<sup>1</sup> comytt you to Almyghtye, wishinge vnto you parfytt health.

—October, 1584.

Ibid. No. 99. Mayor's letter to Mr Dixon on the same subjects as the above, "and Sir there is a gentleman our neybor, one Mr Tanworth which hath marryd a kynneswoman of myne that is an earnest sutor to me to be one of our burgesses<sup>2</sup> and by no weye can doff hym off, so that I am feyne to tell hym we have chosen you to be one, and will not chuse any other before we here from you. [We pray]<sup>3</sup> you will chuse suche a one as you shall have good likinge..." (and also one Mr Johnson in Leicestershire writes to the same effect, see the letter, cited in Thompson's *Leicester*, pp. 273—4).

#### CCXLV. *Mayor's Letters on the Election of an M.P.*

Hall Papers I, No. 91. [Oct. 24, 1584.] To Sir George Hastings acknowledging his letter advocating Mr Johnson. The choice of the Mayor and brethren is made, but if it chance that they can please him, they will. In full in Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 274.

Ibid. 91a. [Oct. 31, 1584.] To Sir Ralph Sadler<sup>4</sup> who has asked for the nomination. They have chosen the Recorder and have not heard from him. They will please Sir Ralph if they can. In full *loc. cit.* pp. 274—5.

#### CCXLVI. *Minutes of a Common Hall.*

Hall Book II, p. 398. [Oct. 28, 1584.] [*Clothier.*] (Land worth £6 "assured" to those bound for the £100 lent to the clothier.)

Ibid. [Oct. 29.] [*Measures.*] The clerk of the market coming "upon a soden" Mr Mayor willed him to come another time and then he and his brethren would confer with him about weights and measures. The clerk said that our wooden strike, made out of the brazen strike, and other measures were presented to him as too big by a pottle.

#### CCXLVII. *Mayor's letter to the Earl of Huntingdon.*

Hall Papers I, No. 92. [Oct. 31, 1584.] The Mayor thanks the Earl for his benevolence to the preacher, schoolmaster and poor, besides care of the clothier. He has made a beginning of trade. The Mayor and his brethren beg to be discharged of the provision of horses required by the Justices for H. M.'s service, which might be remitted if the Earl wrote to the Earls of Warwick and Leicester<sup>5</sup>. The town pastures are in the hands of gentlemen who will not let them, so that they cannot get a horse's grass for a reasonable price, and yet are continually charged with the keep of posthorses (end illegible). (In full in Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 287.)

<sup>1</sup> illegible.

<sup>2</sup> i.e. of parliament.

<sup>3</sup> torn.

<sup>4</sup> Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

<sup>5</sup> This was done: see the Chamberlains' Account CCLIX below.

CCXLVIII. *A J.P. on a matrimonial suit.*

Hall Papers I, No. 93. [Nov. 10, 1584.] Letters patent from Alderman Ric. Stanford. As it is the part of every good Christian to signify the truth in causes doubtful, know that the bearer W. T. married to one J. D. widow continued with her for a term (named) and then upon some controversies between them by mutual consent, as they both confess, before Sir Edmund Bradenell, separated and agreed to live asunder and parted their goods. The wife has lived honestly in Leicester. "Being both had before me to the end they might have wyved themselves togyther agayne," on account of J. D.'s previous contract, they agreed still to live asunder.

CCXLIX. *Minutes of a Common Hall.*

Hall Book II, p. 399. [Nov. 12, 1584.] [*Election of M.P.*] First after the Hall was called and assembled, the forseid precept was openly read<sup>1</sup>. And after that Sir Rafe Sadlers lettre, for the nominacion of boath our Burgesses<sup>2</sup>.

And also a lettre from Surgion Johnson<sup>3</sup>, to be one of the Burgesses, together with dyvers other lettres from private persons, to the same effecte. All which beinge considered on, the choyse of the said two Burgesses, made as followeth etc.

(p 400.) Item yt ys agreed, by the wholl consent, that Sir Raf Sadler, knight, Chauncellor of the Duchie of Lancaster, accordinge to his request in parte, shall have the nominacion of one of the Burgesses for this towne, for the attendance at this next Parliament. Whoe, vpon knowledge thereof, dyd nominate and appoynt for that place, Mr Henrye Skipwith<sup>4</sup>, Esquier. And Mr Thomas Johnson<sup>5</sup> one of Her Maiesties Sergyauntes at Armes was then chossen to bee the other Burgesse, for the said towne of Leicester, whoe have ether of them promysed to beare there owne chargies.

Mr { Henrye Skipwith } Esquiers.  
       { Thomas Johnson }

Burgesses appoynted and retorned for this towne of Leicester for the attendance at this next parliament.

*The Clothier.* The 24 promise 1s. 2d., and the 48 promise 7d. each quarterly towards the payment of the £100 lent to the clothier.

Mr Heyrick, Mayor, and Mr Clark having bound themselves in a bond of £200 to Agnes Stringer for the payment of £100, for their security "there shall be the Towne Hall vocat' Guild Hall assured unto them etc."

The Clothier's bond for the said £100 to be safely kept in the Town Hall "amongest the records there."

And the assurance to be made from the Corporation by the counsel of the Recorder.

<sup>1</sup> The Sheriff's precept, entered on p. 397 of the Hall Book.

<sup>2</sup> Not forthcoming.

<sup>3</sup> See above, p. 209.

<sup>4</sup> One of the Queen's gentlemen.

<sup>5</sup> Of Heather.

CCL. *Letters on the Election of M.P.s.*

Portfolio of Letters, No. 4. [Nov. 15, 1584.] Sir Ralph Sadler to the Mayor, acknowledging his letter of Oct. 12, and nominating Henry Skipwith one of the Queen's gentlemen esquires as a member. (In full in Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 275, and see *Hist. MSS. Com. Eighth Report* App. 1, p. 431.)

Hall Papers I, No. 95. [Nov. 16, 1584.] The Mayor's reply reporting the return of H. Skipwith and T. Johnson. (In full *loc. cit.*)

CCLI. *The Queen of Scots' posthorses.*

Hall Papers I, No. 131. [Nov. 20, 1584.] [From the Mayor to Sir F. Cave.] Whereas vpon Sondaye last in the sermond tyme of morninge prayer I received your letter with a commission for certen horsse to bee sent to you on the next morninge for your brother Mr Bryan Cave and others travellinge on the Queenes Majesties affayres towards Wingfeild<sup>1</sup>. The which commission I sent to John Halfehead one of our constables (whoe ys with others by vs hyered to kepe foure post horsse) with commandement to provyde sixe horsse accordingly. And beinge by him geven to vnderstand that these horsse come whom<sup>2</sup> from Northampton but on the Frydaye before, at mydnight, which were taken on the Thursdaye before for the Queene of Scottes Seycretтары<sup>3</sup> and others, att which tyme one of them was hurt and all so sore ryddon that they were not in case to travell so sone ageyne, gaue hym commandement to take the comyssion and goe in to the Bysshoppes Fee or some other place neyre, and take upp three horsse, and to fyend other three themselves, and to be with them att Baggrave on the next morninge at the tyme appoynted. Wherevpon he, contrarye to my meanyng or knowledge, and verye vnhonestlye, went to Odebye, cleayne contrarye, and there tooke vppe vi horsse. The owners whereof thinkinge themselves hardlye dealt withall came to mee that night so late and my busynes then so great by reason of my dynner<sup>4</sup> beinge on the morrowe, that I could not provyde others and therefore willed them to serve three for that present, and our men should sarve other three, which they then were contented to doe, and for Halfeheades vnhonest dealinge therein which I knowe (which I partlye thincke was by hym done vppon some old malice), I comytted hym to warde that yt might be a

<sup>1</sup> Sir Ralph Sadler's house where Mary Queen of Scots was kept confined.

<sup>2</sup> home.

<sup>3</sup> Nau.

<sup>4</sup> The Mayor's dinner.

warnynge to hym ageynst another tyme howe hee so dealythe with us. Understandinge on Thursdaye last by the guyde that your brother was not soc [well]<sup>1</sup> as I would he had byn, for the which I am very sorye. With my hartye comendacions I comende you to the Almyghtye. Att Leicester this xx<sup>th</sup> of November, 1584.

## CCLII. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book II, p. 402. [Nov. 20, 1584.] *Commen Welles.* Item it is ordered, that the Commen Welles shall from henceforthe be kept in repayre by the inhabitantes of that warde or quarter, where in they stande, and the Alderman there to appoynt yerelye twoe in euerye of the seid wardes (called welle reves) to over see the same etc.

(p. 403.) *No shoppes or stawles to be hereafter buylded in the Markitt Place etc.* Item yt ys further ordered, that frome henceforth, there shalbe noe moe shoppes, stawles or leynetoos<sup>2</sup> erected or buylded in the markytt place, or anye parte thereof, vpon payne of *vli.* to be forfytt by the buylder thereof. And *xli.* to be lost and forfeyed, by the Mayor that dothe suffer the same. The same fynes or forfeytes to be levyed by the Chamberlyns of the said towne, within xx<sup>ti</sup> daies next after ther same shalbe forfeyed etc.

[Jan. 29, 1585.] *For survey of y<sup>e</sup> towne lande.* First yt ys agreed that a survey shalbe made of all the towne lande, and suche thinges as be out of lease to be considered what value they bee of, and what woodd there is vpon any the seid land, and to value what everye tree is worth, and euerye farme and peece of ground. And these persons, viz. Mr Thomas Clarke, Mr Worship, the Chamberlyns, Rychard Archer and John Mabbes, are appoynted the surveyors. But not to sell, lease, or sett, anye the premisses, withoute the consent of an other Commen Hall.

*Newe Mace.* Item att this Commen Hall the newe Mace shoed, and order taken for the payment thereof as followeth :—

(p. 404.) *For payment of the newe Mace.* Item yt ys agreed that neyther the salt<sup>3</sup> nor the old Mace shalbe solde, for the paymente of the newe Mace: But shalbe paid for as followeth viz. the xxiiii<sup>ti</sup> iiis. iiiid. apeece. The XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> xxd. apeece, and the residue that shalbe lackinge, to be paid on the towne stocke. This agreed upon by the greater parte of the Hall etc.

<sup>1</sup> caught in binding.

<sup>2</sup> lean-tos.

<sup>3</sup> salt-cellar, see above, p. 134.



*An order towchinge one Marshall, a tanner, and the tanners of the townc.* Item yt ys agreed that John Marshall, tanner, shall be acqyuted ageynst the tanners for the payment of fyve poundes they cleyne of hym for his fredom with them, and they to have the xxs. they have allreadye receyved of hym, and the towne to have the iiii*li*. whiche ys allreadye payd to the Chamberlyns. And that the seid Marshall shall from henceforth enjoye his fredom with them and the Corporacion, without further exaccion for the same etc.

CCLIII. *Letter to the Mayor asking for an arrest.*

Portfolio of Letters, No. 5. [Feb. 2, 1585.] John Hynes (?) to Robt. Herrick Mayor: hears that his apprentice Ralph Oranenor frequents the town. He turned him away for his filthy, lewd, naughty and untrue dealings with him and his friends: wishes him apprehended as his apprentice till he restores what he viciously, lewdly and naughtily spent of the writer's property.

CCLIV. *Purveyance for the Queen's Buttery.*

Hall Papers I, No. 76. [Feb. 28, 1585.] To all and singuler Her Majesties Justices of Peas, Maiors, Sheriffes, bailiffes, constables, and all other her highnes Officers to whome yt shall apertaine.

Whereas Her Majestie intending this next somer to make her progresse vnto Yorke, and for that suche necessarie provisions as are needfull agaynst her highnes cominge into those partes, cannott be caried from the cittie of London, butt to be provided in the contrie in suche townes and places as is moste convenient for the same: We have therefore appoynted the bearer hereof Rodericke Powell her majesties purveyor of ale and beere together with her highnes comission as well to vewe the state of the contries: Wherbie yt maie be knowne howe her majestie maie best be served, as also to appoynt brewhouses and make staie of all kindes of provisions and other necessities as he shall thinke meete for brewinge viz. maulte, hops, hoopes, clawbordes<sup>1</sup>, emptie caske etc. And if at this present he shall not fynde all suche thinges as shalbe needfull for that service, that then you doe cause all suche necessarie provisions as hereafter shall come, to be staied vntill her highnes cominge thither, or that you heare further from vs agayne to the contrarye. Whereof we praie you not to fayle, requiringe you and everie of you to aide and assiste this bearer in the execution of the saide service.

From the Courte, the last of February, 1584.

Ro. Leycester.

Fr. Knollys.

Jamys Croft.

<sup>1</sup> clapboards, as below.

Hall Papers I, No. 77. [March 10, 1585.] Whereas I am commanded and charged as well by certen of her highnes commissioners directed for provision to be made for Her Majestie in these partes, as also by specyall lettres from Her Majesties most hon[or]able privy counsell dyrected vnto me and to all other Her Majesties offycers to be carefull and dutyfull in thexecucion of the same and of suche artycles as are delyvered vnto me, to be certefyed vnto there honers whereby yt maye appeyre vnto them what provizon maye be made for Her Majestie in these partes: I am therefore to preye and desyre you, y<sup>at</sup> you will accomplishe the charge of this precept, here inclosed, wrytten by her majesties purveyor of her butterye delyvered vnto me with charge to be sent vnto you, and y<sup>at</sup> you will retorne answeere of yt to be certefyed back agayn that yt maye appeyre vnto there honors that we haue done our duties in this behalf.

Ibid. No. 80. Instruction and articles to be delyvered vpp to the Mayors and others of her majesties officers of the townes of Northampton, Leicester, and Nottingham. Fyrst that you doe call before you and her majesties purvyer all the brewers in your towne to take theire names and to knowe howe muche everie one of them can brue.

Item to knowe the price of a tunne of their best beer and ale, after iiii hogheades or vi barrells to a tonne or after the measures used in your towne.

Item the price of a tonne of theire second beere and ale.

Item that you will give charge vnto your bruers to make good provision of good maultes and hoppes, and of all other thinges necessarie to be had and ymployed in this behalf.

Item that you doe call before you all suche as sell anye wyne within your towne, and all your coopers, to knowe what provision of emptie caske maie be made within your towne, or within twentie miles distance of the same, or where anye clapbord or hoopess maie be had and provided for her majestie.

Item that you doe certifie vnto vs the prices of a quarter of your best strawe dried malte, the best wheate and the best oates solde in your markett, and where the best provision of it is to be made.

Item the price of the second maulte, wheate and oates sold in your markett, and wheare it maie be provided.

[v<sup>o</sup>] Item the price of a loade of woode, and of a loade of brushe woode or baven<sup>1</sup>, and where provision of it maye be made.

---

<sup>1</sup> bavin, fire-wood.

Item that you doe sende the purvyers preceptes vnto all the markitt townes next adioynynge vnto you, to be delyvered vnto the Mayors, bayliffes, and other heade officers of the same towne, to make serche and staye all emptye caske, that is to be founde within there liberties.

Item that you doe certefye vnto vs all and singuler the promisses<sup>1</sup> vnder your handes and seales; and the state of the helthe of your towne and other places adioynning vnto the same, where her majesties trayne is to be lodged.

Ibid. No. 78. [March 10, 1585.] The names of the brewers in Leicester, and what they can serve weeklye.

Mr Will<sup>m</sup> Noryce, Mr Tho. Clarke, Mr Ellys, Mr Chettell, Robert Carter, with all the rest of the brewars in Leicester will serve xl<sup>ti</sup> tune weekly of ale and beare, or above if nede bee. After the rate of iis. the dossen.

The best malt xiis. the quarter. The second sorte xs. The best wheate xxs. quarter, the seconde xviss. Otes viiis. the quarter: Brushe woode, iiis. iiiid. a lode: Hoppes, the best 35s.

The towne of Leycester at this present (God be thancked) is healthfull and free from all diseases. Savinge onlye the measelles and ague. From Leycester to Loughborowe viii myles<sup>2</sup>. From Loughborowe to Nottingham other viii myles.

Ibid. No. 79. [March 10, 1585.] (Names of the brewers and what they can serve weekly. Showell, 10 tun, 2 others 6, 6 others 4, 4 others 2.

"They will serve for 36s. the towne beare and ale." Best malt 13s. 4d. a q<sup>r</sup>.; 2nd 12s. 6d. Best wheat 21s. 4d. a q<sup>r</sup>.; second sort 20s. and 18s. Oats 8s. Brushwood 3s. a load. Best hops 33s. 4d., second 26s. 8d. No disease but measles and agues.

From Killingworth<sup>3</sup> to Misterton 12 miles. From Coventry to Misterton 10<sup>4</sup>.)

Ibid. No. 81. [May 7, 1585.] After our hartie commendacions. The Queen highnes havinge determyned this somer to have made her progresse northewardes: Purviewers were sent downe to make staie of caske and other provisions and necessities as was thought needfull for brewinge againste her highnes cominge into these partes. And nowe her majestie beinge altered of her determynacion, we thought yt meete to give you knowledge thereof requirynge you herbie<sup>5</sup> to

<sup>1</sup> premises.

<sup>2</sup> Now twelve.

<sup>3</sup> Kilworth (North and South), formerly Killingworth, is some 4 miles from Misterton. The 12 miles of the Ms. is quite clear, perhaps a mistake for 2½.

<sup>4</sup> Now fifteen.

<sup>5</sup> hereby.

release all suche caske and other provisions as was staid for her majestie within the towne of Leicester. And this shalbe your dishardge for the same. At the courte the vii<sup>th</sup> of May, 1585.

Your lovinge frendes

Gregor Lovell, Cofferer.

James Woodford.

This letter sent from the Cofferer and otheres in discharge of her majesties other letters, for takinge vpp of caske and other provisions etc.

#### CCLV. *Minutes of Common Hall.*

Hall Book II, p. 405. [Mar. 5, 1585.] *Gillmorton*. Item it is agreed that the Chambarlyns, Rycharde Archer and John Mabbes, shall goe to Gyllmoreton to learne out<sup>1</sup> the towne land, and there charges to bee borne.

*For Kyllnes*. Item yt ys agreed that from henceforthe, no kilnes bee newe erected, buylded or made, within the towne of Leicester, nor subbarbes thereof, without the consent of the Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen of the towne of Leicestre for the tyme beinge, or of the moeste parte of them, vppon payne of *vli.* for euery one made contrarye etc.

[Ap. 23, 1585.] [*Town-lands*.] (Certain persons chosen out of both companies to have authority for a year by letter of attorney made from the Mayor and commonalty under the common seal, to sell or exchange lands etc. belonging to the corporation, and to buy and take lands etc. in lease "for the better prefarment of the corporation": provided that the sums thence arising be paid to four of the 24 (named) to act as treasurers for the town.)

*For the fyftene*. (The 24 to pay 5s. and the 48 2s. 6d. each. Collector appointed: commoners to be sessed to the fifteenth and for post-horses.)

(p. 408.) *A note touchinge the Bellman, the Bell, and gevinge of that offyce, etc.* Memorandum that whereas one Anthonye Dugdale hath bene heretofore the Bellman of the towne of Leicester and is nowe departed this present worlde or lyfe, after whose decease his wife claymed [the bell] as hers, sainge her husband bought the same: The whiche beinge proved vntrue, delyvered the said bell vnto Mr Robert Heyrycke nowe Mayor of this said towne of Leicester. The which bell was by hym delyvered vnto Henrye Bland the byddle, whoe was than by the said Mr Mayor appoynted also the Bellman of the said towne, so longe as he is of honest behaviour etc. and duringe the pleasure of the magistrates of the said towne etc.

<sup>1</sup> i.e. to discover.

CCLVI. *List of stolen goods.*

Hall Papers I, No. 125. [May 13, 1585.] (John Jackson examined before J. P.s on suspicion of felony.)

The partyculers.

† vi peces of cruell lace<sup>1</sup> of iii dosson in every pece. † iii pices of lace of 9 dosson and price 18s. a bunche 4s.

iiii roles of garkinge<sup>2</sup> cruell, some blacke, some blue, ii roles cost 3s. 4d. a pece and ii role cost 2s. 6d.

iii bunches of harte<sup>3</sup> lace of ix dosson, which cost 10d. a dosson.

viii grosse of thrid poyntes<sup>4</sup>, price of some 8d. a grosse, and other some 2d. a grosse.

CCLVII. *Papers relating to the purchase of the Grange and other town-lands.*

Box 9 A, No. 13 (4). [? May 22, 1585.] Two sheets of a terrier, ill-written, containing many references to T (? Tatam), C (? Clarke) and B (? Borrowes): gives the lands "butting on Paradise."

*The barley field*, with abuttals on Knighton Highway, on "pease well," the claypits.

The "lands" are of one, or one and a half acres, three and a half acres, or eight acres apiece.

A "flatt<sup>5</sup>" of 12 acres of rye land. "Five lands more laid to the first rye land that lieth westward.

xi lands viz. viii in the middle of the furlong, ii picks<sup>6</sup> of the south side, and on hadland<sup>7</sup> sowth and north at the end of the same lands."

4 lands 23 pikes<sup>6</sup> lying south upon Knighton Mere.

*The fallow field.*

Lands butting on the windmill, windmill hill, on "little erles mere"; lands lying in the "water thorow<sup>8</sup>." Lands next Knighton field "in the mydle Lung<sup>9</sup> south upon rowdikes<sup>10</sup>."

Box 9 A, No. 13 (9)<sup>11</sup>. Survey and parcels of land pro Tatam and Clark.

*In the boorges meadow<sup>12</sup>.*

The sheld<sup>13</sup> and di a naker and ii adland<sup>14</sup> 16s.

ii akers and a adland.

i aker in Mr Holts les<sup>15</sup>.

i coles<sup>16</sup> in the covlan<sup>17</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> lace made of thin worsted yarn or crewel.

<sup>2</sup> jerkin?

<sup>3</sup> ?

<sup>4</sup> thread points or laces.

<sup>5</sup> a tract of arable, a cornfield, *N.E.D.*

<sup>6</sup> pikes = gores.

<sup>7</sup> headland, the strip left at the head of the acre-strips for the furrow to turn on.

<sup>8</sup> ? water furrow, watery furlong.

<sup>9</sup> Ling 'heather'?

<sup>10</sup> the Rawdikes.

<sup>11</sup> And in (10) there is a list of tenements, near the Southgate, undated and of no value.

<sup>12</sup> Burgess Meadow.

<sup>13</sup> A piece of land called the Shield, see below.

<sup>14</sup> half an acre, and two headlands.

<sup>15</sup> leas.

<sup>16</sup> close.

<sup>17</sup> Cow-lane.

i crafte or coles in the a sam<sup>1</sup>.

.....  
i coles kolloed the wye coles<sup>2</sup>.

&c.

Box 9 A, No. 13 (17). [May 22, 1585.] Record of proceedings in purchase of town lands, see 9 A, No. 13 (9).

Box 9 A, No. 13 (18). Schedule of Geo. Tatam and Tho. Clark's lands, bought for £600.

Hall Papers I, No. 132<sup>3</sup>. [May 26, 1585.] *The demand of the Mayor and Burgesses of the towne of Leicester.* We demande the iuste moiety...of the Graundge called the Newark graunge...for the terme of 40 yeres at the least.

Also we demaunde the present possessyon of all the said premisses upon our first payment and then to have suche assurance [as] by our counsell shalbe reasonably devysed.

Also wee demaunde the rentes of the same premisses...viz. £40 payd by John Borrowes, *vli.* for the Frith Close, *vli.* for the Bead-housse meadowe † the meadowe beyond the Mylne called the Close meadow ‡ the rent of the milne and the milne howsse † and the tacke sylver<sup>4</sup> ‡ and the commens in the Forest accordinge to the rate of the firme<sup>5</sup> with all other proffyttes and reservacions to Mr Hastings reserved.

† Further we demand the origynall lease to be past in the name of the Mayor, burgesses and commynaltie of the towne of Leycester oute of which Mr Worshipp to have an assignment from them of the other moiety. ‡

Ibid. No. 134. The Partyculers belonginge to Mr Hastings parte of the Graunge.

Fyrst the dwellinge house...in the occupacion of Rob. Nixe.

Item the half of y<sup>e</sup> Mayrye meadowe and Close meadow beyond y<sup>e</sup> mylne to his owne use and the shepes commens and other commens and all y<sup>e</sup> ereable<sup>6</sup> land.

A Close in the Frythe in Mr Hastynges handes.

The Burges meadowe and the Beadhowsse meadow also in Mr Hastings hands.

(A further note of his holding on July 1.)

Box 9 A, No. 13 (7). (A paper book.) A note of money received for land of the town's sold, 22 May—5 Aug. 1585. Sums due for sales of town land Sep. 1585, and the obligations of those bound over for payment. Note of the payment of £300 to F. Hastings, 25 Nov. 1585.

<sup>1</sup> one croft or close in the same.

<sup>2</sup> one close called the Wye (?) close.

<sup>3</sup> No. 133 is another draft, partly obliterated by damp.

<sup>4</sup> payment for the right to turn out beasts.

<sup>5</sup> firma, rent.

<sup>6</sup> arable.

Box 9 A, No. 11 (1)<sup>1</sup>. *Remembrances touching our closes.* An order in the Duchy between Tusser and others and Worship and others, that Worship and others shall continue possession, will give colour for our possession. If our adversaries move an injunction to remove our possession, this order will give some show to stay him if you can procure favour of Mr Chancellor and Mr Attorney. The Attorney has half promised the same already to Geo. Perkins<sup>2</sup>, who can remind him. Perkins or Mr Okes can tell you with which of Mr Chancellor's men to procure favour. On Mr Recorder's points, use Mr Godfrey's opinion, who is soundly learned.

Box 4 A, No. 3. [Without date.] The concluding portion of a lease from the Queen to Francis Hastings and W. Worship of the Grange and Goslingcroft with tack of animals and pigs pasturing in the Cowhay and South Fields, and the water mill called Newark mills and the holm called Gooseholm with fishing, and the tenement at the corner of the lane in the Southgate leading to the mill and the Swan Land, and the Beadhouse meadow.

Box 9 A, No. 11 (9). Draft of the town's cause for the Closes, addressed to a Lord (the Earl of Huntingdon). Mr Attorney sends information that by law we cannot enjoy the said Close for want of circumstances to have been performed at the "devision" of the said Frith viz. the King's Majesty's special grant made thereof to the Newark, which, if we cannot find, our case is very hard in law. And then we are only to rest on equity and good conscience to have recompense for the common due to the Newark. Before we make open our grief, will his lordship send for Tusser and persuade a composition? Of late we gave his lordship's brother<sup>3</sup> great sums for the closes. For over 72 years these closes have been reputed parcel of the Grange. They came to the Newark in consideration that the College had in the Frith divers pastures, as by a record Tusser (as he said to Archer) can shew. We pay a preacher £20 a year out of the sum (etc.).

### CCLVIII. *Portmanmoot Roll.*

Box 7 A, No. 6. A paper book of the rolls of the portmanmoot 12 Oct. 1584—13 Sep. 1585.

...Memorandum that at this courte Gravener is by y<sup>e</sup> Jury found giltye in the accion of battry commenssd ageynst hym and Judgement geven: and William Tayllor one of his suertyes, y<sup>e</sup> other beinge W<sup>m</sup> Gren the surgion being dead, is discharged of his suertyship and the defendand in execucion etc.

(25 courts and 41 cases—mostly trespass on the case<sup>4</sup>.)

<sup>1</sup> Another copy, addressed to Mr Clark Mayor for Mr Sacheverell is in Box 9 A, No. 11 (10).

<sup>2</sup> The Recorder.

<sup>3</sup> Francis Hastings.

<sup>4</sup> See above, p. 145.

CCLIX. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1584—5.] *Rents...Receipts...£76. 9s. 5½d.*

*Gyftes...* Quenes maiesties playors more (etc.) 15s. 8d....George Warde the Earle of Huntingdons man and bearewarde more (etc.) 12s....a messenger that broughte certen proclamacions ageynste scedisious books 3s. 4d....Sir Ralf Sadlers man that brought letters... Mr John Danett,...Lorde Vawse his bearewarde...Mr Harrye Sadler, Sir Ralf Sadlers sonne...Countis of Huntingdon...wafornes and fyne cakes, figges and allmons...Quenes Majesties bearewarde 10s....a veale a mutton and twoe lambes gevon the Earle of Huntingdon... 27s. 2d....a samon gevon to the Countys...Mr F. Hastings... Mr Skevington and Mr Wensley then beinge at the Angell then sittinge of a comission for Fenton<sup>1</sup>...Mr Tusser cheef clarke of the Duchie...Mr Beamounte the lawyer<sup>2</sup> for his counsell for certen cawses towchingeoure corporacion etc. 20s....therle of Leycestre his playars more (etc.) 24s....

*Fees...*certen harveste<sup>3</sup> men for waytinge of Mr Mayour...chargies of Ric. Archer...towchinge the gunpowther man<sup>4</sup> 16s....serche of Alderman Whytes wyll...W. Dethicke beinge sente to London in the parlyamente tyme with lettres from therle of Huntingdon in the behalf of the towne to therle of Leycester and the reste of the lordes of the Counsell in dyscharge of certen demylaunces and lighte horsSES the towne was then charged withall<sup>5</sup>...£3. 16s. 9d....at Tutberye goinge to see Sir Ralf Sadler Chauncellor of the Duchie in sekinge his favor and frendshippe towards this towne 26s. 7d....booke of the actes or statutes made at the laste parlyament 2s. 6d....pykes for the newe halbards, which were lost the fayor before...charges of Valentyne Wells and Ric. Archer at Gyllmorton<sup>6</sup>...charges in prosecutinge the lawe ageynste Ric. Rawlynson for the money he oweth to the towne... settinge on of the toppes of the Chamberlyns staves...Mr Nic. Heyricke of London, goldsmith, for a newe mace of sylver all gilte wayinge xlii<sup>u</sup> ounces and a half at 8s. 6d. the ounce, the sylver, makinge and gyldinge comes to £18. 1s. 3d. For gravinge the armes therein 30s. and for a case for hit 5s. Soe all the wholl comes to £19. 16s. 3d. whereof deducted, geven by the said Nic. Heyrick 40s. the some payed is £17. 16s. 3d....two squitchins<sup>7</sup> for the waytes boyes

<sup>1</sup> See No. CCLXIV below.

<sup>2</sup> Francis Beaumont, a son of the late Recorder.

<sup>3</sup> *sic* for "harneste."

<sup>4</sup> The saltpetre man, concerning whom more below.

<sup>5</sup> See above, p. 207.

<sup>6</sup> See above, p. 216.

<sup>7</sup> escutcheons, badges.



and for a badge or synkefoyle<sup>1</sup> for the bydle, more then the silver came to of the olde synke foyle 18s. 5s....serchinge of the Recordes in the Tower, Chauncerye and other offices<sup>2</sup> 39s. 2d....

*Reparacions*...vawens<sup>3</sup> and neales spente in the parler at the hall...mendinge of the scans or hengings<sup>4</sup> there...clothe for sincke foyles for the poore<sup>5</sup>...killinge of molds<sup>6</sup> in the Cowchey...skowringe of the pryve at the olde hall 5s....pavinge and amendinge the commen grounde at the Elne<sup>7</sup> tree in the markitt place...att the Guildehall...makinge of the florth<sup>8</sup> ageyne in the kitchyn at the hall after the salte peter man<sup>9</sup>...loode of thornes to make a fence betwixte the towne grounde and W. Dakyns grounde 3s. 4d....

*Total sum*...£100. 12s. od. So the towne in dett to the said Chamberlyns...£24. 2s. 6½d.

### CCLX. *Minutes of Common Hall.*

Hall Papers I, No. 137. [Sep. 29, 1585.] (Maces to be carried on the Sundays of livery and gaol delivery.)

Hall Book II, p. 414. [Sep. 29, 1585.] Allso att this present metinge or assemblye by a wholl consent or at the least of the most parte was putt in eleccion of the XXIII<sup>th</sup> for the choyce of the Mayor the yeare after thend of this year (2 names)<sup>10</sup>.

### CCLXI. *Letters on the Grange business.*

Portfolio of Letters, No. 6. [Oct. 3, 1585.] R. Parkins to the Mayor. Comendations to good mistress Mayoress. He was booted and ready to come to the Sessions but heard they would not be held. Hopes, now the Mayor is in office, matters of the town shall be brought to good effect, which otherwise might have been "foreslowed." Hopes Mr Hastings' money<sup>11</sup> will be ready as he has given his word for it. "You were one of those that did make the bargain with my lord. The thing is worth your money and very commodious for the town. And yf the Townes men shalbe unthankefull God will remember yt."

<sup>1</sup> The town cinquefoil badge.

<sup>2</sup> See the town's land business above, p. 219.

<sup>3</sup> hinges, see above, p. 94.

<sup>4</sup> ? scenes or hangings.

<sup>5</sup> licensed beggars.

<sup>6</sup> moles.

<sup>7</sup> elm.

<sup>8</sup> floor.

<sup>9</sup> Saltpetre was made from earth impregnated with animal matter and the saltpetre men had the right to dig up floors of stables, slaughter houses etc. in search of it. *Nott. Rec.* IV. 281.

<sup>10</sup> And so annually from this point.

<sup>11</sup> In Hall Papers I, Nos. 148, 149 [Oct. 4, 1585], are recorded the arrangements for the security of the town's debt of £300. In Box A, No. 13 (12), are the receipts for land sold and for rent of the Grange Nov. 5, 1585, and receipts Sep. 29, 1585—Sep. 29, 1586.

Hall Papers I, No. 150. [Dec. 26, 1585.] Archer informs the Mayor that the Earl (of Huntingdon) is friendly, but he finds Mr Hastings' advice always necessary. He has drawn a new petition as the Earl spends Christmas at the Savoy.

Portfolio of Letters, No. 10. [March 1, 1586.] Mr F. Hastings reports to the Mayor testifying to Archer's fidelity in the town's suit. He cannot attend to the matter until he returns from the west.

### CCLXII. *Charges for town's business.*

Box 9 A, No. 13 (13). Archer's bill Dec. 20, 1585—March 5, 1586. "A medissin for the cold" 6*d.*, dinner to the Earl of Huntingdon's grooms, 2 "pear of showes" 3*s.* 6*d.*, 3 "peare of soles" 2*s.*, visits to the "cowart."

Box 9 A, No. 13 (16). [1585.] Mr James Clark the Mayor's charges on town's business to London.

Fyrst paid for the solinge of my bootes xi*id.*

Item for a male<sup>1</sup>, pillyon and ii girthes of leyther for the same xi*id.*

Item paid for a boxe to carrye wrytings in viii*d.*

19 Nov. at Northampton, my charges there iis. xi*d.*

Sayterdaye night att Marckgate, my charges there iis. iii*d.*

Sondaye the xxi Nov., London.

Item my supper viii*d.*

Fyer i*d.*

(With numerous charges for shoe-leather) Total £4. 5*s.* 0*d.*

### CCLXIII. *Letter on behalf of a vagrant child.*

Portfolio of Letters, No. 9. [Jan. 12, 1586.] Edward Boughton to the Mayor. He is sending to Leicester a child, Edward German, about ten years of age, who came to his house asking relief in August last, and was then almost devoured with lice. He called himself the son of Edward German fletcher of Leicester, a very poor man no way able to relieve him. He was taken in and cured of sundry sores, but fell to wandering in his old manner. The parents have neglected him and suffered him to wander in most ungodly and uncharitable manner where, by better order, he might have been a good member of the commonwealth.

### CCLXIV. *Royal lease of Leicester and chantry lands.*

Box 5 A, No. 2. [Feb. 16, 1586.] Latin indenture between Queen Elizabeth and James Fenton gentleman. In consideration of his service in finding out her possessions of the Duchy, largely hitherto concealed<sup>2</sup>, she has let to him to farm

<sup>1</sup> trunk.

<sup>2</sup> On the "concealing" of chantry lands, and others forfeited under the reforming acts, see Strype, *Annals* 11. i. 310.

certain of her lands in Leicester, one near the stone wall of the town, a waste place round the wall, another part of the land of the common midden (sterquilin<sup>1</sup>) at the West end<sup>1</sup>, of 26 virgates, lately demised to the Mayor and commons (communitatibus), another piece lying in the old ditch, by the Saturday Market, a garden on the town ditch opposite St Margaret's church, 5 gardens in Saturday Market, a messuage in Hotgate, late the lane of the common oven<sup>2</sup>, land under the wall of Millstonegate, a garden near the Townsend opposite the Friars Minors' wall, etc. etc. (late tenants named), also land late of the chantry of Fenny Bentley in Derbyshire, a piece of meadow called Lyttle Holebrook belonging to the service of St Mary in Bradborne or the chantries in Ashbourn, Derbyshire, and other messuages of the chantries of Ashbourn and Hough, granted to divers superstitious uses, and pasture in Aldermore, Rolleston, Staffs....for a rent of £13. 5s. 11d. (with the items). (Note of enrolment.)

CCLXV. *Privy Council's orders to prevent flesh-eating in Lent*<sup>3</sup>.

Hall Papers I, No. 251. [Feb. 10, 1586.] Greenwich. Orders to bee put in execucion by the Justices of peace in the severall countyes of this realm for the restraint of eatinge and killinge of fleshe in the tyme of Lent and daies prohibited.

First Her Maiesties pleasure is, vnderstandinge the greate disorder heretofore committed in eatinge fleshe as well in the tyme of Lent as in other daies prohibited: That the statute of Anno 5<sup>o</sup> of her maiesties raigne for restraint thereof bee put in due execucion in all partes of the countrye and in Corporate townes by waye of inquisition and charge of juries, and by any other goode meanes, to the punishment of the offendours.

And for the better execucion thereof, and of these articles followinge, yt ys thought meete that you doo take order without any delaye, consideringe the tyme presente amongst your selves by divydinge your selves in your severall divicions, to meete duringe the tyme of this Lent once euerye fouretene daies, and to make enquirye accordinglye of the offendours in that behalf. And nowe at your firste meetinge, to agree of all good orders for performance of this necessarye service.

And because a greate parte of this disorder groweth by certaine butchers that kill and sell fleshe in oute howses and other secrett places you shall cause bondes to bee taken to her maiesties vse of all butchers within your severall divicions in suche good sommes as by you shalbe thought convenyent not to kill any fleshe in tymes of restraint; savinge, in the borowe or shire townes, or other good corporate townes, some one maye bee lycensed to kill, for the vse of

<sup>1</sup> See above, p. 103.

<sup>2</sup> Hence the name, given elsewhere (II. 202) as Calidus Vicus, Hotgate.

<sup>3</sup> Not in Dasent, 1586-7, p. 5.

persons lawfully lycensed to eat fleshe on fysshe daies : and the said butchers to bee at the nomination of the Mayor or principall officers of the saide townes, without exactinge any thinge of them for their lycenses.

That the butchers soe lycensed shalbee firste bounde in the sum of fyfthe poundes to Her Majesties vse to kill noe biefes [or] muttons fleshe in the Lent tyme nor other daies prohibited but [only]<sup>1</sup> as shalbe lawfullye lycensed (rest illegible).

That the said Justices and principall officer shall not graunte any warrant to any person or persons but to suche as theye shall knowe to bee sicke and diseased or otherwyse by lawfull aucthoryttee lycensed, as they wyll aunsweare at their perill, to the contrarye.

That the saide Justices and principall officer shall keepe notes or registers of all suche warrantes as shalbe then graunted to any persons diseased or lawfully lycensed, conteyninge the names of the persons soe diseased and lycensed, to bee certefied euerye fouretene daies duringe this Lente season to the Custos Rotulorum of the countye or to his deputye, whiche certeficate the saide Custos shall sende vpp to the Lords and others of Her Majesties Counsaile.

That the said butchers so lycensed shall euerye fourtene daies with the privytee of the princypall officers of the towne, certefie to the Justices of that diuicion where theye shall bee soe lycensed, whatt sorte, quantety or kinde of fleshe they dooe kyll weekelye and that espycially they bee inhibited not to kill any lambes, for any respecte, consideringe the great losse of sheepe this present yeare in the moste parte of the realme.

That the said Justices and principall offycers shall take order that the butchers shall vtter their fleshe at reasonable pryses to bee soe dyrected by the Justices.

That the said Justices within their seuerall diuicions and all principall officers of townes corporate shall presentlye vppon the receipte of these orders take bandes<sup>2</sup> of all inholders, table keepers, victuallers, taverners, and alehouse keepers in suche sommes as by them shalbe thoughte meete, that they shall not kill nor dresse any fleshe in their howsses, or vtter any in the tyme of Lent, or other dayes prohibited for any respecte, excepte it bee for suche person or persons as lye and lodge in their housses and shalbe lycensed vnder twoo or three of the Justices handes, in respecte of sicknes or other necessarye cawses to eate fleshe.

And to thende the saide orders maye be more dulye executed the

<sup>1</sup> torn.

<sup>2</sup> bonds.

said Justices shall appoint within euerye paryshe twooe well [disposed]<sup>1</sup> persones or more as the necessetye of the service shall require (rest illegible) whiche saide persons wee thincke meete to bee sworne for the due execucion thereof, and to bee changed from tyme to tyme as cawse shall require and wheresoeuer any person shall offend, the same shalbe reformed, eyther by corporall punishment, or by certificate of the bondes to bee extended by Her Majestie by order of the officers of her Exchequer.

They shall also from tyme to tyme deliuer to the Sheriffe of that County all suche bondes as by inquisicion shalbe founde to bee forfeited, to bee returned to Her Majesties Eschequer at the begynnyng of Easter terme nexte.

Jo. Cant.	T. Bromley Chanc.	W. Burghley.
C. Howarde.	J. Hunsdon.	W. Cobham.
T. Buckhurste.	Fr. Knollys.	Jamys Crofte.
Chr. Hatton.	Fra. Wallsyngham.	

#### CCLXVI. *The town-lands.*

Hall Book II, p. 420. [Feb. 25, 1586.] *Towchinge Burbadge assuraunce*<sup>2</sup>. Firste at this Commen Hall, the drought of the assuraunce of the land, solde to George Burbadge, lyuinge in Ratclif was openlye redd. The which was verrye well lyked of, and agreed vppon, in all respectes, accordinge to the tenor thereof etc.

Fines for non-attendance at the common hall<sup>2</sup>.

[Mar. 18, 1586.] The companies agreed "emoungest themselves to lend to" the £300 which the town owes for the Grange, and to have a list of the loans made, "registred in the greate booke<sup>3</sup>, for the better remembraunce" and for the repayment the Mayor and Chamberlains and their successors to be charged.

Lease of a piece of meadow part of the Grange for 4 years for £40 paid beforehand<sup>4</sup>.

Hall Papers I, No. 140. [Ap. 13, 1586.] Meeting of the surveyors. List of leases made. Payments for land sold £404. 6s. 8d., e.g. Geo. Burbage £200. Heyne of Thrussington £107 etc.<sup>5</sup> Rents received for Grange leases.

Box 9 A, No. 9. Another copy of the above with a note of the loan by the Twenty-four and Forty-eight of £115 towards the £600 due to Mr Hastings, and a note of the legal expenses. The sum total of receipt being £695, a balance of £48. 12s. 3d. is left to the town.

<sup>1</sup> caught in binding.

<sup>2</sup> Also Hall Papers I, No. 137.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid. No. 139.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid. No. 143, with a list of those who took parts of the Grange (all members of the two Companies).

<sup>5</sup> The account of the purchases is given in full in Throsby's *Leicester* p. 99 note.

Hall Book II, p. 422. [Ap. 22, 1586.] Renewal of letters of attorney for the sale and exchange etc. of land from the corporation<sup>1</sup>.

Ibid. p. 423. No collector of the fifteenth having been appointed, the Lord Chancellor made the appointment.

The gross and total sum of the assessment is £20.

Hall Papers I, No. 142 (v<sup>o</sup>). [Same date.] The survey which serten hathe for the towne wall (&) dyke was now readd....

Towchinge the schole masters howsse hit ys ordered that yf he do goe from hit, that then the surveyors shall have the settinge of hit....

Box 5 A, No. 3. [Aug. 31, 1586.] Six named comburgesses of Leicester appoint an attorney to collect rents due to the Corporation for the moiety of the Newark Grange (with the items due).

### CCLXVII. *Letters relating to town business.*

Hall Papers I, No. 151. [Ap. 12, 1586.] The Mayor, Recorder and twelve of the Company write to the Earl of Huntingdon reporting the death of Mr Johnson their preacher, and asking for the appointment of Mr Travers (now without a cure) as resident preacher. In full (misdated) in Thompson's *Leicester* pp. 288—9.

Ibid. No. 167. [? July, 1586.] (Unsigned letter probably from the Mayor, to a lord, probably the Earl of Huntingdon.) Right honorable beinge geven to vnderstand that [certain] [nei]ghbors hathe informed your Lordship that I sent hym<sup>2</sup> to you with my commendacions, desiringe your Lordship that the prisoner condemned for buggrye before you at our gavle delyuered last, might bee repried<sup>3</sup>, and that I was sicke,—I wold have come to you abowte the same, whereat your lordship (as verye well you might) tooke some displeasure with me. These lettres to signifye vnto your lordship that I sent no suche message vnto you, neyther was privye of the parties commynge to you aboute the same. For yf I had bene willinge to have dealte therein, than I wold (as of dutye I ought) have come to you my self—doe therefore most humblye desire your lordship to surcesse your hard opynyon ageynst me for the same. Thus I humblye take my leave. From Leycester this.

Portfolio of Letters, No. 11. [June 11, 1586.] (The Recorder to the Town Clerk.) Mr Dethicke, after my hartiest commendacions etc. As touchinge Mr Stanfords matter I have delt withe Mr Justice Suyte<sup>4</sup> and also withe Mr Ewes of the Crowne office, and they affyrme that allthoughe Judgement were geaven upon the indictment, yet the *certiorare* is a *supersedias*<sup>5</sup> to us; there are dyvers cases in yt,

<sup>1</sup> Hall Papers I, No. 142.

<sup>2</sup> hym = hem, them.

<sup>3</sup> reprieved.

<sup>4</sup> Shewte below.

<sup>5</sup> The writ *certiorari*, which summons the cause before a higher court, acts as a writ of *supersedeas* by stopping the proceedings of the borough court.

whereof (amongest others) for example sake this one. An indictment of forceable entrie found, the Justices of Peace assessed a fyne, for the kinge, and after this Judgement, and before the *capias pro fine* awarded, there came a *certiorare*. And after the Justices of Peace graunted a fine: and was adjudged a contempte. (Mr Watson case and Justices of Peace in Holland pour Molton men: "et issint estretinge del fynes apres certiorare coment soit al use le roigne uncore ne seray estrete in leschequer<sup>1</sup>.") Wherefore I would willinglye deale in suche sorte therein as Mr Maior myselfe and the whole corporation may be saved harmelesse thereby, and therefore yf any other *capias* come retorne yt, and so you shall avoyed the contempt; for my owne parte there is no reason whye I should travell<sup>2</sup> in yt and laye out my money about his cause, but Mr Suyte hathe promysed that yf Master Stanford will travell<sup>2</sup> in yt eyther at Leicester or heere, he shall have all the lawfull favour that maie be. But resolutlie it is holden by all men that the experience is (after the *certiorare*) allthoughe judgement be geaven before the *certiorare* yet it is *supersedias* to the execucion, for your writte of *certiorare* is to remove all indictments etc. (*et omnia ea tangentibus*) or to that effecte. And I praie youe make Mr Smalley privie to this lettre to the entente before the seconde writte come to youe Mr Staunford maie travell<sup>2</sup> here for his restitution without traverse wherein Mr Shewte I thinke will do hym some good. But for our parts, in denying to make the said indictments wilbe, as they<sup>3</sup> jugges told me playnlie, holden a contempte, wherein grete discredite will speciallie happen to us all, and no furtherance to my cosen Staunfords case, whereof if he meane as a resonable and a wise man should do to his frendes, he will not seeke their disgrace onlie for his fancye without his profite etc.

P.S. Whatsoever is here written kepe theeffecte and all cloose from Mr Cotton.

Hall Papers I, No. 203. [Sep. 19, 1586.] Letter from the Privy Council to Will. Turpin the Sheriff of Leicestershire recommending that the two burgesses of the last parliament, Henry Skipwith and Francis Cave be re-elected. (In full in Thompson's *Leicester* pp. 276—7.)

Portfolio of Letters, No. 14. [Sep. 26, 1586.] The Earl of Huntingdon asks to nominate one M.P. and hopes the other will be well affected to H.M. and the state. (In full *loc. cit.* p. 277.)

Ibid. No. 15. [Undated.] Sir Roger Bromley to the Mayor on his communications with the Earl on this matter. (In full *loc. cit.*)

<sup>1</sup> "and thus the estreating of the fines after a *certiorari*, although it be to the use of the Queen, shall not be estreated into the Exchequer."

<sup>2</sup> travail.

<sup>3</sup> they = the.

Ibid. No. 16. [Oct. 12, 1586.] From the same to the same; the Earl's candidate is not Mr F. Hastings but another. (In full *loc. cit.* pp. 277—81.)

### CCLXVIII. *Minutes of a Common Hall.*

Hall Papers I, No. 194. [v<sup>o</sup>.] [Sep. 21, 1586.] *For settinge up of corne.* The act for settinge up of corne is now renued and to bee from henceforth putt in execucion, viz. that non of the inhabitants doe suffer noe corne to bee sett up in their howses of the Saturdaies uppon payne of 6s. 8d. for everie defawlte. Nor do lett nor sett anyie chambers or other their howses to anie person or persons whatsoever that bee eyther sellers or buyers of corne.

*Myllners.* Also that the myllners whatsoever bee not suffered to buye anie corne on the corne walle.

### CCLXIX. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1585—6.] *Rents...Receipts...£54. 13s. 9½d.*

*...Gifts...* George Warde the Bearewarde...the Earle of Huntingdon...Ladie Throgmorton<sup>2</sup>...banckettinge stuffe given to her...to the Lord Chamberlens and the Lord Admiralls players more (etc.) 4s...sheriffs and Justices in Geynsborow chamber...9 June the Erle of Shresburie...Queenes majesties players more (etc.) 24s...Earle of Essex plaiors in reward, beinge not suffered to play at the hall 20s...Sir Amias Pollett<sup>3</sup> at his beinge at Leicester then havinge theire the Scottish Queene 23 Sep....

*Fees...* Mr Pelsante our preacher at 2 severall times towards his charges £3...goldsmith for guyldinge of the towne salte and for certen knobbes broken of<sup>4</sup> 14s...fees for the certificate of the rates of servants, artificers and laborers wages...paide for a bridle of Mr Yards loste when the poste horses were taken upp for Sir Amias Pollett when the Scottish queene was in Leicester...three men for 2 nightes watchinge of Sir Amias Polletts cariages at his beinge here with the Scottishe queene...

*Reperacions...* russhes at the hall against the Assises...makinge

<sup>1</sup> Box 9 A, No. 4 [Oct. 13, 1586] contains the indenture of the return of Henry Skipwith and Thomas Johnson.

<sup>2</sup> Probably the widow of Sir Nicholas Throgmorton.

<sup>3</sup> Sir Amyas Paulet was made keeper of Mary Queen of Scots and Privy Councillor, Jan. 1585. The queen was being moved to Fotheringhay to stand her trial.

<sup>4</sup> of=off.



cleane the hall yarde gardin...after the slaters had don...a thick scill<sup>1</sup> and 2 dore cheeckes<sup>2</sup> for the Easte gate...

*Totall some* £66. 14s. 2½*d.*...Soe the chamber of the towne of Leicester ys indebted to the saide old chamberlains...£12. 0s. 5*d.* the which was paid by the commysioners out of the Rents and profitts arisinge of the Graunge etc.

[v<sup>o</sup>.] (Notes of receipt of £29. 12s. 3*d.* for land sold, from which were paid loans of the XXIII and XLVIII etc.)

### CCLXX. *Portmannmoot Roll.*

Box 7 A, No. 7. [Oct.—Sep. 1585—6.] Aug. 1, 1586. <sup>3</sup>Ac etiam ad hanc curiam venit Ricardus Smith husbandman ad sectum (*sic*) Georgio (*sic*) Morrice et Willelmo Morryce de placito quod reddat ei (*sic*) xvili. viis. viiid. cuius corpus remanet in custodiam ballivi ville Leicestrie pro defectu *manu captorum*. Memorandum that the said Richard Smithe standeth further arrested by one Will. Shawe one of H.M.'s pursuivants to appeire before the Counsayle<sup>4</sup> to answere to suche things as shalbe before them objected ageynste hym. The which pursuivant cam into the Courte with the said Smithe whoe made declaracion thereof to the Courte; whereuppon hitt was ordered that notwithstandinge the said action of the said George and Will. Morryce that the said Smithe shoulde not staye in custodye for the answeringe of the said accion: But is delyvered into the custodye of the said pursavant to be had upp to the Counsell.

(On one page of this paper book is a list of the Auditors appointed at a common hall, Nov. 19, 1585.)

### CCLXXI. *Examinations for seditious words.*

Hall Papers I, Nos. 207—209. [Oct. 13, 1586.] Charles Dubignon, examined, reports hearing an embroiderer Sawford say that if the Queen of Scots were put to death there would be great trouble in England; that Merlin had prophesied a pleasant golden world after such troubles, and that the commons would rise if the poor were not relieved.

In Sawford's examination he reports that one Byard told him of Merlin's prophecies (and as in Thompson's *Leicester* p. 279; for asses read apes).

<sup>1</sup> sill, base.

<sup>2</sup> gate-posts.

<sup>3</sup> And also to this court comes R. S. husbandman at the suit of G. M. and W. M. concerning a plea that he pay back £16. 7s. 8*d.* whose body remains in the custody of the bailiff of the town of Leicester for default of pledges.

<sup>4</sup> The Privy Council. His case is not mentioned in Dasent.

Ibid. No. 210. The prophecy (written as prose) is given :

When men are brekyd lyke bares and cotyd lyke apes,  
 And women pentyd lyke images to behoulde,  
 Great pryd and lecher in yong and oulde,  
 Greate taulke of god and no delle<sup>1</sup> sarvyd.  
 Nor none of hys lawes almost regardyd ;  
 Fayth and honesty most hatyd ; wyth flattarey  
 Abondantley caryeth awaye the wectorey<sup>2</sup>;  
 But god of hys omnypotencey  
 Wyl not so delludyd be.

Ibid. No. 211. As I was in comonycation with Edward Sawford of thinges which I had red in books as cronicles and [of] the reward of iniquitie and other such like both pleasant and good to pase the tyme withal. He told me that he had red the boke of King Arthur which he said was a pleasant boke of fables as ever he red in his lyfe. Then began to talke of Marlyn saying that he was a man that had foretould many thinges to com yea even to the worlds end. The which I hearing. I desired to know what this Marlyn was and what he had sayd. The aforesayd Edward Sawford sayd that Marlyn lyved in King Arthurs days and also foretould King Arthur his death which also came to pase: ferther that this Marlin was as it were a congerer and loved a lady to whom he taught his science and yet this lady loved him not and by the same connyng that she had learned of him she inclosed him into a stone and thus the sayd Marlon dyed. These words being ended I asked Edward Sawford what Marlyn had foresayd of thinges to come, sayth he, <sup>3</sup>that there should be a man and his boy at the plow and there should a man clothed in black and bare head run over the feeld, and that the boy sping<sup>4</sup> him should say, "Master, Lo ! where reneth a man in black. I think he be a preest": then his maister should say "Com let vs go and kil him for it is they that hath put this world to this stay as it is"; forthermore that cloobs and clooted showes<sup>5</sup> should rise: and also that there should be an ould man lying on a hil after the trobles past behoulding the world and should wish him yong agayne, that he myght be a partaker of the goulden days to cum: ferther that there should be many that should seeke the death of our noble Queene but none should preveale nor abridge her days, but that she should lyve tyl God should otherwyse cal her. Thus much he mayd no difference at al to

<sup>1</sup> part.

<sup>2</sup> victory.

<sup>3</sup> The prophecy does not come from any of the recognized sources.

<sup>4</sup> espying.

<sup>5</sup> Cf. "Hertfordshire clubs and clouted shoes," country bumpkins.

tel me, neyther tould he me any more at that tyme, but within few days after he tould me that there should be a parlement held, the which, sayth he, must be the next of al, at the which being assembled they should common<sup>1</sup> of such matters that there should be discord and som blose<sup>2</sup> geven in the parlement house and soe should the parlement be broken and every man reterne to his home; and then must the broyle begin, and al in such a troble that the Quens grace shalbe forced to fly into Wayls for her safgard: then shal the dead man com and restore to every one his owne wif and his land and set al at quiet. And I asked him what this dead man ment or what he was and he sayd he knew not whether it was King Edward the syxt or King Arthur. These be dangerous words sayth he to be spoken of vnles it be to a specyal frend as I know thou art to me.

(For the remainder of the examination see Thompson's *Leicester* pp. 279—80. Add after "monks and nuns," "talk not fit to be rehearsed.")

Ibid. Nos. 225, 227—230. [Oct. 21, 1586.] (For the examination of H. Butterfield, for his praise of Anthony Babington, lately executed, see *loc. cit.* pp. 280—1. For Butterworth read Butterfield.)

#### CCLXXII. *List of tavern- and inn-keepers.*

Hall Papers I, No. 250. Oct. 1586. List of tipplers and inn-holders in the several wards, 73 in all.

#### CCLXXIII. *Letter from the Privy Council on abstinence from meat in Lent.*

Hall Papers I, No. 256. [Feb. 10, 1587.] (A copy.) The Council refer to their former good orders (No. CCLXV) and require them to be executed, "the rather in respecte of the late greate mortallitie of sheepe, and other greate cattell generallie almost throughout the realme, and of the dearth and scarcetie also of other kinde of victualls at this tyme. And for a meanes to the better performance hereof, we are to remember vnto you, that your owne example in the streight kepinge of these orders in every of your owne howses will greatlie further the observeinge of the same amonge the meaner sorte, etc.

Your lovinge frends.

Jo. Cante.	W. Burghlay.	H. Derby.	W. Cobham
T. Buckhurste.	F. Knollys.	Jamys Crofte.	
Justices: J. Wolley.			W. Davison.

<sup>1</sup> commune.

blows.

CCLXXIV. *Various Accounts.*

Hall Papers I, No. 202. [Oct. 14, 1586.] Tatham's coal account<sup>1</sup>.

Box 7 A, No. 1. [Jan. 12, 1587.] T. Clark and R. Archer's<sup>2</sup> bills for London business.

Charge for Dethick's writings on the Grange lease etc.

Will. Rowe's bill for 1585 : receipts and expenses.

Note of moneys received and spent by J. Ellys, Mayor, 4 May, 1587. (Rents.) Half a pound of wax used for the town's seal to the Grange writings 6d.

[March 10, 1587.] Names of the 24 and 48 who lent money to the town.

Hall Papers I, No. 201. [March 31, 1587.] Note of the implements on the Corporation's moiety of the Grange.

A hovell...a duckhouse... 4 hovell posts, a prickpost<sup>3</sup>, well and its furniture, pales, rails, posts, gates, cowhouse, "a little crattche<sup>4</sup> for foles," "swynestydes" with doors and trough, manure in the yard, racks and planchet<sup>5</sup>.

CCLXXV. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Papers I, No. 195. [Mar. 10, 1587.] (Chamberlain to receive the rent of the close in the Frith.)

*Bandogges<sup>6</sup> to be mostelled.* And also it is agreed that from henceforth noe bandogge<sup>6</sup> or bytches shalbee suffered to goe loose in the street unles they bee well moseled for doing harme uppon payne of 6s. 8d. for everye defawlte.

Hall Papers I, Nos. 234—5. [May 2, 1587.] The £400 to be paid to Francis Hastings<sup>7</sup> on May 12 for the reversion of the moiety of the Grange.

Notes of those who lend. Thos. Clark and Mr Heyrick £160, Mr Morton £100, etc.

CCLXXVI. *Drafts of Petitions for the Reconstitution of the Borough<sup>8</sup>.*

Hall Papers I, No. 146. To the Queenes moste excellent Majestie.

Moste humblye shewethe, vnto your highnes, your obediente and faythfull subiecttes, the Maior and Burgesses of your highnes

<sup>1</sup> On the coal sold to the poor see No. CCXXXVII.

<sup>2</sup> Their appointment to act, with the Recorder, is in Hall Papers I, No. 200.

<sup>3</sup> ?

<sup>4</sup> cratch, crib or rack for fodder.

<sup>5</sup> planks?

<sup>6</sup> mastiff.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid. No. 252 is a letter of this date from the Mayor and Company to F. Hastings, reporting that townsmen have been appointed to carry out his wishes.

<sup>8</sup> None of these numerous drafts are dated, but Archer's correspondence (below) shows that some at least are of July, 1587.

borowghe of Leicester: That where the sayde towne is parcell of thauncyente inheritance of your Dutchye of Lancaster ande one of the moste auntyente borowghes of the same dutchie, and heretofore hathe byne verrie populous, and beinge scituate within the myddeste of your highnes realme, conteyninge in tyme paste xxx<sup>tie</sup> paryshes<sup>1</sup>, and xii wardes well inhabited. And nowe latelie soe decayed, as the whole circuyte conteynethe onlye sixe paryshes and tenne wardes, whiche are not inhabited, by thone haulfe, and where there are certayne paryshes adioyninge or neere your highnes sayde towne, viz. St Margarettes paryshe (called the Byshoppes Fee) St Leonardes paryshe, and St Maryes paryshe, beinge paryshes exempte from the lyberties and exercyse of jursydctions of your highnes Maior and other your officers in the sayde towne, within whiche paryshes (exempte) are manye typlinge howses and places of evill resorte, to the greate preiudice and annoyance of the dwellers within your highnes sayde towne, and the peaccable and goode goverment of the same: by reason of which your highnes sayde Maior and Burgesses are not able to reforme the said abvses within the said paryshes, beinge out of their liberties and jurisdiction: And further where divers persones, men of trades (inhabitinge in other townes) not beinge apprentices, nor privyldged, nor free, within your sayde burroughe, doe repayre vnto the same, and their on the markett dayes, and other tymes, doe use and exercise their trades and occupacions to the great hinderance of the artisans and men of trades, inhabitinge within your sayde borroughe, by reason whereof many of your saide subiectes beinge chardged with scott and lott, and all chardges whatsoever to your majestie as otherwise (their trades and traffique beinge by these meanes soe forestalled and hindered), are greatlye impoverished. And further where your saide subiecttes of your highnes sayde towne, doe (accordinge to their smale abilitie) contribute towards the mayntenance of the poore people there, and have allsoe (att their costes and chardges) buylded one howse, for a free grammer schole, for education of the yonge children, and doe geve a yearelye stypende to the scholemaister and vshers thereof. And have nowe latelie sett vpp cloathing, for better mayntenance, and settinge the poore in worke and knittinge of yarne: And also do contynuallie fynde a lerned precher: By meanes that straungers doe entermeddle with their trades within the sayde towne, yet by meanes their comodities, wherewith they shoulde benefytt themselves, the sayde inhabitantes are alltogether

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<sup>1</sup> The figures are imaginary.

unable to sett vpp (in suche ample sorte, as they desire) the sayde trades of cloathing, cappinge, knittinge, and other exercises, by which they intende to sett on worke and mayntayne the sayde poore people and increase the number of inhabitantes there. [Yt maye therefore please your highnes accordinge to your accustomed favoure, to respecte and consyder the premisses, and that it maie please your moste excellent majestie for the consyderacions afore sayde, to graunte to your sayde Maior and Burgesses, to the vse, behoofe, and better maynetenance of your highnes sayde towne and purposes aforesaid theire moste humble petition and requeste conteyned in certayne articles herevnto annexed. And in soe doinge the same wilbe a moste honorable and perpetuall remembrance of your moste excellent majestie to continewe in all ages hereafter and procure to your sayde towne greate comforte and relief for all the inhabitantes of the same, wherebye they shalbe moste bounde, earnestlye (as they daylye doe) to praye to God, for the longe preservation of your majestie in all healthe and felicitie, etc.]

Box 9 A, No. 1. Another draft of the above in different form. Tells of the 30 parishes and 12 wards reduced to 6 parishes and 10 wards. "And whereas there be remayning in your Majesties possessions since the dissolucion of the late Colledges, Chauntries and Gyldes within and now adjoyning to the said towne divers houses to the number of 200 in greate ruyne and decaye scituate in the moste frequent streetes of the same, the fynes whereof to your Majestie be soe smale, the tenauntes soe poore and your Majesties wooddes and tymber nere thereunto in tymes paste so allyened as in tyme for wante of due reperacion they muste of force fall downe to the grounde, wherebye bothe your highnes said rentes shall decaye and your said towne be greatlie defaced." The corporation contribute to their small ability to the maintenance of the poor, and at their own expense have built the free grammar school, "and not having lands of above £20 by the yere be altogether unable to sett upp or erecte any trade of clothing" (and then the sentence given above in square brackets).

Then follows:—Your Maior and Burgesses of Leicester (for the better relief of foure thowsande your loving subiectes) be humble sutores to your majestie for the fee farme of all suche landes and parcelle as they nowe holde of your highnes by lease vnder the sealle of the Duchie of Lancaster either in their owne names or by assignement from others, viz.:—

The sheep pens in the markett place and one tenement or ferme adioyning or nere the saide towne, parcell of the late dissolved Colledge of the Newarke.

And those cottages and parcell of lande sometye belonging to the late dissolved Guyld of Corpus Cristi in the said towne.

(1) Item to have yerelie eleccion of a bayliffe to be joyned to the said Corporacion for thexecucion of processe within the liberties of the saide towne, whiche bayliffe shall collecte all suche your majesties rentes there, as the bayliffe nowe is charged with (withoute fee after the deathe of the nowe bayliffe) there, by whiche your majestie shall be discharged of the yerelie fee of fyve poundes allowed to the saide bayliffe for the same. In consideracion whereof itt maye please your majestie to graunte the butchers shambles lying within the markett place of your saide towne.

(2) Item that itt maye please your majestie to renewe their auncient charter of the saide towne, with addicion of the saide bayliffe to be joyned vnto their saide corporacion, and that they maye pleade and be ympleaded by the name of Maior, Bayliffe and burgesses and that itt maye be a countie within itt self, for the better ease and tryall of contraversies of your subjecttes within the saide towne.

(3) Item that within the parrishes of Sainte Margarettes and St Maries in the saide towne, your Maior and burgesses maye be authorized to exercise suche jurisdiction as lawfullie they maye and have used to do within the residue of the parrishes of the said towne.

(4) Item that by the name aforesaide they maye be of capasyte to purchase landes to the value of one hundred markes yerelie.

(5) Item that they maye have Leetes, vewe of francke pledge twice in the yere, and the proffittes thereof with all casualties, fynes, amerciamentes, proffittes of courtes as are yerelie accompted for to your Majestie within your saide towne towards the repaying of the highe waies and bridges, and avoyding annoyaunces in and aboute the saide towne: yelding suche rente for the same as hathe byn answered for the moste yeres of twentie yeres.

(6) Item that the Mayor, Justices of peace and Aldermen maye be commissioners for musters within the said parrishes.

(7) Item that your subjectes be not compellable to appeare and be ympaunelled but onelie before your highnes Maior of your saide towne and justices of peace there, excepte in case of treason.

(8) Item that the Maior maye be enabled to prove willes within the saide towne and parrishes, and to take bandes for the true answering of orphantes goodes.

(9) Item if itt maye stande with your highnes pleasure your Mayor and burgesses of your saide towne will be contente to take to fee farme all the housses, landes and tenementes in the fore saide

towne and parrishes, with certen other smale parcelles lying withoute the saide towne to the value of eight poundes or there aboutes, being within the colleccions of George Tatam, Archer, Holte, Harvie, Wyld, Tatam, Singleton and others, parcell of the late dissolved Colledges and Chauntries in Leicester. As also the towne dytche and ruynouce wall of your saide towne, and to be bounde to paye vnto your highnes and successors the rentes of the same as they nowe be or have beene within twentie yeres paste, and discharge your highnes of all reparacons, to the intente your saide towne shall goe noe further in ruyn and decaye.

(10) And that your highnes pleasure herein signified maye be a sufficient warrant to the chauncellor and counsell of your duchie, to make a booke readie to your majesties signature accordingle, and that this booke so signed by your highnes maye be the like warrant as well to the Lorde Chauncellor of Englande, for the tyme being to passe this vnder the greate seale of Englande, as to the Chauncellor of your duchie of Lancaster to passe theise vnder your duchie seale according to your moste gracious pleasure.

Box 9 A, No. 2. (Another draft of the same petition. The opening as above. The clauses of the petition are:—)

Your Maior and burgesses of the towne of Leicester for the better relief of foure thowsande your lovinge subjectes be humble sutors to your majestie for the fee farme of all suche Chauntie landes as are mencioned in a perticuler hereunto annexed and referred by your majestie to be considered by the right honorable Mr Secretarye Walsingham whoe hath accordingle considered the same.

Item itt maye please your majestie to renewe their auncient Charter with wordes sufficient that your saide Maior and burgesses by the same name maye pleade and be impleaded and purchase lande to suche yeirelie value as to your majestie shall seeme good and further to vse and execute all suche iurisdiccion and auctoritie as to justices of peace belongeth and otherwise within the parishes of St Margarettes and St Maries, as lawfullie they maye and have vsed to doe within the residue of the parrishes of the said towne.

(Then follow articles as above, *i.e.* those numbered 1<sup>1</sup>, 6, 7, 8, and 10.)

Box 9 A, No. 3. [Another copy in Box 9 A, No 11 (2).] Most humblie sheweth unto your Highnes your obedient and faiethfull subjects the Maior and burgesses of the towne of Leicester where they have beene of long tyme humble sutors unto your Majestie

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<sup>1</sup> Omitting the paragraph on the butchers' shambles.



for the fee farme of divers houses and other landes the greatest parte being 200 cottages or tenements and but candle rents<sup>1</sup> within the saide towne, parcell of divers chauntries, nowe in greate ruine and decaye, being your highnes duchie of Lancaster: the consideration whereof your Majestie referred to your Highnes Chauncellor of your duchie, whoe accordinglie by all due and circumspecte meanes dealte therein (as by his certifiat under his hand hereunto annexed more at large appeareth: Maye it therefore please your most excellent Majestie of your accustomed goodnes and grace (in consideration of the greate ruine the said towne is like to fall into) to graunte to your said Maior and burgesses for the better maintenaunce of your highnes saide towne the premisses considered by your Majesties chauncellor of your highnes duchy whiche as it noe waye conteyneth a diminucion but rather an assuerd contynuaunce of your highnes auntient and usuall revenues with the dischard(g)ing or disbordening of your highnes of certaine fees and reparacions amounting yearelie to the somme of £13. 18s. 8d. or thereabout soe will the same be a moste honorable and perpetuall remembraunce of your moste excellent Majesties princely bountie towards the saide towne...(concludes with clause 10 as above).

Box 9 A, No. 11 (3). (Draft petition to the Queen. Begins as Box 9 A, No. 1, and asks for the renewal of the old charter with words sufficient to enable the Mayor and Burgesses to plead and be impleaded and purchase lands to such yearly value as may seem good to H.M. and to exercise all the jurisdiction that belongs to a Mayor and Burgesses, as hitherto exercised.

Divers decayed houses belonging to the late colleges, chantries and guilds, the college of St Mary, the hospital of St John and St Leonard, St Margaret and the town obit lands and Corpus Christi Gilds and yearly rents £114. 0s. 1½d.

The Grange farm with mill £32. 0s. 6d.

Sheep pens, drapery, shambles and market stalls, a tenement with a horse mill and certain common bakehouses and small rents improved of the waste £23. 19s. 10½d., and concludes with clause 10.)

Endorsed "This petition altered."

Box 9 A, No. 11 (4). Begins as Box 9 A, No. 1. The Mayor and burgesses are suitors for the fee farm of all lands they now hold of H.M. by lease under the Duchy seal, either in their own names or by assignment from others, one market house called the Shambles excepted, which till of late years was in the Corporation's holding.

<sup>1</sup> Originally perhaps rents due to chantries, gilds, etc. to maintain altar-lights, but ultimately used for rents from house-property in general.

1. The shambles, sheep pens and the Newark Grange.
  2. A cottage and land formerly of the dissolved college and gild of Corpus Christi.
  3. Clause 1 of Box 9 A, No. 1.
  4. The fines, ameracements and profits of the Court called the Mayor's Court, with all the casualties accounted by the bailiff, for a rent such as has been paid in any one of the last 20 years.
  5. To renew the charter adding the bailiff to the corporation, to allow all the old jurisdiction and privileges in the parish of St Margaret's, St Mary's and all the other parishes, except the seat of H.M.'s Castle, and the seat of the late college of the Newark.
  6. To have power to purchase lands to £100 yearly.
  7. To have return of writs and a county court monthly.
  8. To have leets, view of frankpledge twice a year, and the profits to the repair of highways.
  - 9—11. Clauses 6—8 of Box 9 A, No. 1.
  12. Incorporation by the name of Mayor and burgesses.
- Box 9 A, No. 11 (5). Another similar draft shewing No. 11 (4) converted into No. 1.

Box 9 A, No. 13 (6). Petition draft as Box 9 A, No. 1: adds that Leicester is on the way to Berwick and London. The inhabitants intend to provide for maintenance of clothing, preachers and free instruction of children and the building of a convenient house for such as shall be visited to inhabit during the time of such visitation<sup>1</sup>.

The Corporation has only £20 worth of land a year. Divers godly and well-disposed persons seeing so godly a platform already devised and begun would extend their charities.

The Mayor and burgesses ask for the ancient part of the town in fee farm, now in the collection of the bailiff, for an annual rent such as has been paid in the 20 years (corr. from 3 or 4 years) past.

Jurisdiction in exempt parts of parishes.

The clause asking for the whole town in fee farm is cancelled and in the margin "The naming of the whole towne in fee farme wilbe a great thing in shew and take hede how you put it in." A clause naming the efforts of the Earl of Huntingdon for clothing is cancelled and in the margin "You may set what hathe been attempted but name nobody."

Incorporation asked and power to have a common seal as before used.

Out of the 24 burgesses commonly called Aldermen, the Mayor to be chosen by the 24 and 48, as Henry VII ordered.

That the Mayor and 24 Aldermen and 48 comburgesses may elect a bailiff and 2 chamberlains and other officers.

That the Mayor may be Escheator and Clerk of the Market within the town and parishes and none other to exercise that office.

Assize of bread, wine and victuals: return of writs: county court monthly. That the Mayor and Recorder may be of the Quorum and Justices of Gaol Delivery and of the Peace: and have power to take recognizances of statute merchant and "knowledges of deeds and other writings of lands, and †so acknowledged and enrolled in their Guylde Hall to be as effectuell as in any enrolment in the Chauncery (etc.) your Highnes Courts of Record‡."

The Mayor to have power to prove wills and take bonds for orphans' goods (in the margin "fornicators etc.").

<sup>1</sup> The plague.

Leets, law days, view of frankpledge twice a year, and the profits thereof towards repair of highways and bridges.

To make laws and ordinances by assent of the 24 and 48 for the good order of the inhabitants.

To have such fines as by them assessed towards relief of the poor and repair of ways and bridges.

A weekly court on Monday for all actions as time out of mind and the profits to the town's use.

The Mayor and aldermen to be commissioners of musters, and † no others to be admitted‡.

Subjects not to be compellable to appear or to be impanelled within or without the town but only before the Mayor and J.P.s there.

No foreign artificers to retail any wares there (except on fair days) before they be free burgesses.

Collectors to be chargeable with all fifteenths, tenths etc. in the town and parishes.

That the inhabitants of the town and parishes be free burgesses of the town.

Hall Papers I, No. 265. Printed in Thompson's *Leicester* p. 284.

### CCLXXVII. *Archer's negotiations for the reconstitution.*

Hall Papers I, No. 253. [July 12, 1587.] He asks the Mayor for instructions.

Ibid. No. 254. July 17. Same to same on Anthony Culverwell's loan of £100. "I am now to attend at the cowart of Teballs<sup>1</sup>."

Ibid. No. 255. July 23. Same to same. Has been twice before the Chancellor but can have no "resolute" answer. He seems to purpose to grant a commission to get information of the state of the town. He thought a fee farm to be very much<sup>2</sup> but a lease of 60 years to be reasonable for us. The Earl of Huntingdon promises to do his best for us.

Ibid. No. 258. July 28. The same to the same. He will act as directed.

### CCLXXVIII. *Commission of enquiry into the houses of the late Gilds.*

Hall Papers I, No. 257. [July 30, 1587.] Francis Hastings, Edw. Stanhope, surveyor of the lands parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster beyond Trent, Will. Agard, particular receiver of our honour of Tutbury, Francis Beaumont deputy steward of the crown lands in Leicestershire, Geo. Purefey and Roger Bromley, deputy receivers of the same, are to have authority to examine witnesses and perambulate etc. to discover decays in tenements that belonged to the late colleges, hospitals, gilds and chantries in Leicester and ascertain what timber is needed for repairs.

Hall Papers I, No. 261, and Box 9 A, No. 11 (6). [Oct. 3, 1587.] Result of the enquiry of the commissioners. (See Thompson's *Leicester* p. 283.) They summoned 18 masons, plasterers etc. to go and search and make presentment as a jury. They find 235 houses in decay.

That buildings, commonly called bays of houses, with the timber, plaster and slates are wasted—406, at the rate of £6 a bay=£2436.

<sup>1</sup> Theobald's.

<sup>2</sup> i.e. to ask.

To rebuild each bay would take 8 tun of timber—with carriage 10s. a tun  
= £1624.

Four tun of timber would scarce repair each of the 235 houses in decay  
= £465.

Carriage of wood from H.M.'s wood at Hinckley £598, at 3s. 4d. a tun.

Total cost of repairs £5123. 6s. 8d.

Some who hold leases for 10 years probably ought to do their own repairs, but we cannot ascertain this certainly as the lessees will not deliver to us their estates and charges thereby.

The tenants-at-will do not stand charged with repairs.

For yearly repairs of houses that are still in good condition, they cannot name a sum with accuracy, but think £390, the sum reported to have been spent in H.M.'s first year, would be approximate.

Collectors and bailiffs or fermors who have carried away decayed timber should be charged to find repairs. Many are now dead. The court of the Duchy chamber may best decide what to do in this matter. Building materials are priced so high and the tenants are so poor that they will scarcely be able to be charged with repairs.

The Commissioners certify of their own knowledge that H.M.'s tenements standing in the face of the chiefest streets that are fallen into ruin and decay are a great defacing of the town (rest torn away).

Box 9 A, No. 13 (5). [Aug. 22, 1587.] The names of the jurors sworn to enquire into decays: *i.e.* 6 shoemakers, 3 bakers, 1 tanner, 3 slaters, 5 carpenters, 3 tailors, 1 mason, 1 victualler, 1 weaver.

Articles to be enquired on, as in Hall Papers I, No. 261, above.

Hall Papers I, No. 264. List of bays decayed and in whose occupation, 24 Aug. 1587, grouped on the west and east of Southgate<sup>1</sup>, St Mary's Close, Red Cross Street, Mr Freake's ward, John Stanford's ward, Mr Norris' ward. Northgate, St Margaret's Churchgate, Belgravegate, James Clark's ward, St Martin's churchyard (St George's hall ruinous and in decay), Loseby Lane, Mr Manby's ward, The Cancke street...all the shops of the "huswyves market" in foul decay being 4...all the other shops in the market place in decay. Saturday Market, Galtrygate, Humberstongate, Roundell, Parchment Lane, Churchgate St Martin's, High Street, alias Swines market, Silver Street against my lord's garden.

Box 9 A, No. 13 (15). Payments by the Commissioners made 15 Oct. 1587.

"For a dinner at the Angel, Aug. 22, 1587, bread and bear *vis. vid.*, boyld meat ii, *xiiid.*, boyld bef iii, *iis. viiild.*, rost veall ii, *iis. viiild.*, caponettes<sup>2</sup> ii, *xxd.*, rabetes ii, *xiiid.*, pygons *xiiid.*, frut and ches *vid.*, wyne and suger *iiiis. vid.*" etc.

Box 9 A, No. 14. Draft Petition to the Queen (undated). The petitioners remind the Queen of their long suit for the fee farm, and of the commission's report that the cost of repairs to houses would be £5123. 6s. 8d., although H.M. has been charged yearly £13. 8s. 8d., from which charges she will be discharged by her grant to the Mayor and Burgesses. "There hath growne unto your Majestie very small fynes or none at all as by the saide certificat dothe appeare." By granting the petition H.M.'s ancient and usual revenues will be increased. Her bounty will be remembered in all ages hereafter and will procure the town great comfort and relief. May her pleasure be a warrant to the Chancellor and Council of the Duchy to make a book ready for her signature.

<sup>1</sup> A tenement called the Hermitage is named.

<sup>2</sup> caponets, young capons.

CCLXXIX. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1586—7.] *Rents...Receipts...£67. 12s. 11½d.*

...*Giftes...*bishoppe of Yorke...Erle of Huntingdon...Mr Dyer clarke of the assices...Lorde Admyralls playors more (etc.) 4s....Erle of Shrewsburye...George Warde Bearewarde...Countys of Sussexe playors...Erle of Leycesters playors...a preacher, a Scottyschman...Sir Geo. Hastings and dyvers other gentlemen att the cockinge<sup>1</sup> 18s. 8d. ...Erle of Essex playors...Justice Gawdy att the Assices...Queenes Maiesties playors more (etc.) 24s....Countys of Huntingdon...

*Fees...*a letter to Cambridge to Mr Pellsant our preacher...John Bellgrave for goinge of arrowndes<sup>2</sup>...pursyvante that broughte a prock(l)amacion towchinge the Scottyshe queene<sup>3</sup>...goinge to Cambridge to fetch Mr Pellsant his books 26s. 8d....pursyvants that broughte books and proclamacions towchinge order for corne...payed for a carte and to the beadell for cartinge of twoe harlotts abowte the towne ...feytheryng of seavon sheafes of arrowes...14 quyvers...Mr Johnson of Heyther towards his charges being one of our Burgesses of the parlyamente for the fyrste tyme...Mr Pellsante our preacher for his charges in comynge to this towne to contynnue 12 March...oylinge and dressinge of the bwcketts...John Carver for carvyng and makinge the Quenes Arms which is in the hall extant 15s....for the gyldinge thereof 26s. 8d....Mr Pellsant att our Ladye Daye more than was gaythered 12s. 6d....Mr Johnson of Heyther...the second tyme 30s....Justices of the cuntrye syttinge here abowte order for corne...men for attendinge on the corne wall...

*Reparacions...*payntinge of the clothe att the towne hall...paynetinge the walles in the hall...newe stockeinge and makinge newe of vii gunnes...towe frames to hange the gunnes and arrowes on ...lyme, ston and brycke<sup>4</sup> for the cundytt headd in Saynt Margaretts fylde...

*Total summe...£79. 12s. 5d....*So the chamber...is indebted...  
£11. 19s. 5½d.<sup>5</sup>

CCLXXX. *A lawyer's bill.*

Box 7 A, No. 8. Enclosed with the Portmanmoot roll of 1586—7 is a bill of costs from William Dethick (Mayor's clerk) against N. Wilson in a plea of trespass on the case.

<sup>1</sup> cock-fight.

<sup>2</sup> errands.

<sup>3</sup> The entry is not dated. Probably the proclamation announcing her sentence is referred to.

<sup>4</sup> This is the first mention of brick in these rolls.

<sup>5</sup> A note that this sum was paid out of the money received on the sale of a house.

- 28 Aug. The accion, sommons and quenes sylver 6*d.*, Attorneys fees 4*d.*  
 11 Aug. Declaracion and counsell 2*s.* 8*d.*, the entringe therof 4*d.*, the fyle 4*d.*  
 10 Sept. A copie of his answee and daye 8*d.*, Attorneys fees 4*d.*, Counsell 20*d.*  
 25 Sept. Replicacion and enteringe 12*d.*, Councell 1*s.* 8*d.*, Attorneys fees 4*d.*, Veneray *facias*<sup>1</sup> 3*s.* 4*d.*  
 16 Oct. An *alias venerificias*<sup>2</sup> 2*s.* 6*d.*, An essayne 4*d.*, Attorneys fees and counsell 2*s.*  
 16 Oct. Counsell and attorneys fees 2*s.*

CCLXXXI. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 7. [Nov. 4, 1587.] *Straungers to bee made free.* Hitt is ordered and agreed that from henceforthe there shall not bee anye estraungers made free of this towne, (beinge of anye trade or occupacion) vnder the somme of *vli.* Vppon payne of x*ls.* to be lost and forfeited by the Mayor and Chamberlyns that shall [have] admytted any suche, and that to bee levied by the Mayor and Chamberlyns succedinge: otherwyse than at a Commyn Hall.

[*Scarlet.*] (Order for scarlet 14 Mar. 20 Eliz. re-enacted, and to the days when scarlet is worn is added 'the Queen's Majesty's Day to the sermon,' and also 'the assizes to meet the judges': penalty 10*s.*)

(p. 9.) *For comynge to the Sermondes.* Item yt ys allso ordered and agreed that euerye Alderman in his warde, or his Deputye or Constable, shall from henceforth take order and compell all suche persone and persons whatsoever inhabitinge, cowching<sup>3</sup> or beinge within his warde, to cum to the Sermondes with ther wyse<sup>4</sup>, [who]<sup>5</sup> wolde not<sup>6</sup>.

*The overseeing of Alehowses.* And also to oversee Alehowses, as well for the kepinge of good rule, as also for sellinge of there ale and beare, accordinge to the assyce and order therein appoynted etc.

*Sergiants.* (Four sergeants to have liveries.)

*An order for sellinge of wollyn and lynnyn clothe etc.* Item hit ys ordered that from henceforthe no wollen draper, lynnyn draper or other person or persons whatsoever, either of the towne of Leycester, or of the Cowntrye, that buyeth anye cloth, either woollen or lynnyn, to sell the same ageyne, shall sell, bee suffred to sell, or take vppon or

<sup>1</sup> For a writ *Venire facias*, to summon a jury.

<sup>2</sup> The same writ issued a second time.

<sup>3</sup> lying.

<sup>4</sup> wyse = wives.

<sup>5</sup> 'who' seems to have been written and scratched out.

<sup>6</sup> In Hall Papers I, No. 260, is a recognizance, July 20, 1587, to appear to answer a charge of contempt of the Mayor and abuse of preachers,

preasume to sell, or offer to sell, anye of the said clothes, viz. cyther woollen or lynnyn clothe, in the huswyfes market, but onlye in the draperye: accordinge to the auncient custome. Vppon payne of euery one to the contrarye to forfytt and [be] lost to the Chamber of the towne of Leycester vis. vii<sup>id</sup>. for every default etc.

*Mayors sergiants fee awcmented.* (Mace-bearers receive from each of the 48, 2s., and from every townsman entering the freedom 2d., and from every stranger entering the freedom 4d., and the same from all admitted to "the fellowship of any the occupations.")

[Jan. 28, 1588.] *For waightes.* Queen's proclamation received for having new weights. "This proclamacion is amongst dyvers othir proclamacions tyde together in the cubbards of the hall."

(p. 11.) [May 8, 1588.] *Preacher.* (The 24 pay 10s. each yearly to the preacher's stipend and the 48, 5s., besides the benevolence of every one that will give more and also of the commonalty.)

[May 17, 1588.] *Sowldiers.* The chefest caus of this meetinge was for a sessment for and towards the furnytüre of fortye soldiars, for Her Majesties service to be in a readynes vppon fyve daies warninge by the Lord Lefetenant or the Deputie Lieftenant, towards which charges agreed vppon as followethe etc. viz.

The xxiiii<sup>th</sup> cessed at xiiis. iii<sup>id</sup>. apeece and the xlviii<sup>th</sup> asscessed att vis. viii<sup>id</sup>. apeece and all the commyners to be taxed towards the same chargies.

(p. 12.) *Inmates.* (Act renewed<sup>1</sup>. Landlords to "avoid"<sup>2</sup> their tenants, being strangers, and likely to be chargeable to the town.)

xs. *paid to Mistris Meyris.* (Towards the charges of the dinner of the Justices of the Shire at the first musters taken of the inhabitants.)

(p. 12.) [May 29, 1588.] *Concerninge the newe waightes.* Memorandum that the xxix<sup>th</sup> daye of Maye, 1588, was delyuered unto Mr Mayor, by one Edwarde Vnytt, one of her Maiesties mesengers, a lettre hereunder wrytton, and one proclamacion conserninge newe waightes, viz.—

*The copie of the said lettre.*

After our hartye commendacions, whereas our soveraign Ladye, the Queene, hath geven order and commaundement to vs the Lorde Treasurer, Chauncellor and Barons of Thexchequer to cause to be made, sized and approved, so manye stonderdes of weightes to be made of brasse as should suffyce amongeste others for everie shire towne within the domynyons of Wales, and also for everie citie, boroughe, towne and place lymytted by the statute made in the xi<sup>th</sup> yeere of the raigne of the late Kinge of famous memorye, Kinge Henrye

<sup>1</sup> See p. 102.

<sup>2</sup> avoid = eject.

the VII<sup>th</sup>, to have and keepe standerdes of weightes accordinge to the meaninge of that statute : and did by Her Majesties proclamacion, made the xvi<sup>th</sup> of December last past, publishe and declare her will and pleasure to bee that the Mayors, Bayllyffes and other headd officers of everye of the said citties, boroughes, townes and places should, before the Feast of St John Baptiste nexte comminge, at the common charge of the same place, send somme sufficient person to the said Exchequier authorised to receyve suche standerdes as shoulde be delyvered vnto them, by the order of the said Courte, for the said citey, boroughe, towne and place, and to paye suche reasonable prises for the same, as vppon the true valuacion by the Courte shall be rated, which standerdes are to be kepte and vsed accordinge as is prescribed by the said proclamacion, a copie whereof we send unto you, for your better instruction in observinge the contentes of the same :—

Theis be to geve you to understande y<sup>at</sup> accordinge to Her Maiesties said warrant and proclamacion, we have caused severall standerdes to be made as well of Troye as Avoir de Poiz weighte. That ys to saye, for everie citie, boroughe, towne and place mencioned in the said proclamacion, a pile or case and a boxe of Troy weightes and a suyte of grayte weightes, and a pile of small weightes of Avoir de Poiz, after the manner specified in the said proclamacion ; which beinge provided as good cheape as wee coulde have cast, and are rated accordinge to theire true valuacion at *ixl. viiis. xid.* videlicet the Troye weighte at *iiil. viiis. id.* and the Avoir de Poix *vili. xd.*

Wherefore theis be to require and commande you in the Queenes Maiesties name, that before the said Feast of St John Baptiste next comminge, you send some sufficient person to the said Exchequier, authorysed to receyve the said standerdes provided for that your towne and also furnished to paye for the same the said sommes before mencioned, and further to see the said proclamacion in all poyntes putt in due execucion, as to you shall apperteyne, as you will answeere to the contrarye at your vttermoste perill. And so fare you well : from Westminster this xxi<sup>th</sup> of Maye 1588.

Your lovinge frendes,

W. Burgley, Walter Myldmay, Roger Mawllwell.

To our lovinge frindes the Maior of the towne of Leicester in the County of Leicester and the headd officers of the same and to every of them.

(p. 13.) Payed more in the exchequier for fees viz. : To Mr Fanshawe 3*s.* 4*d.* To Mr Presson 2*s.* To the Clarke for the indentures and other payments 1*s.* Payed for gold weights 3*s.* 1*d.* Paid for



carriage of the same weights by water and by lande to the carryar 10*d*. Item paid for a supplicacion putt into the xchequier 1*s*. Item paid for the carriage downe of the said weightes, a capcase<sup>1</sup>, and a portmantue with wrytinges of the towne 7*s*. 6*d*. Sum 17*s*. 9*d*.

The totall som of all the charges of the said waights £10. 7*s*. 8*d*.

The which lettre and proclamacion and bill indented are all fyled togyether emongest the records of this yere of Mr Ludlam mayor and are remeyninge in the studdye.

All which weights remeyne in a cheste in the parler att the Towne Hall.

(p. 14.) *Villa Leicestrie*. Memorandum that this present yeere, the towne of Leycester was charged with fortye soldyars, footemen, whiche were prest and sett forthe readye furnyshed, with armour and munyzion, vnder the leadinge of George Villers, Esquier, oure said xl<sup>th</sup> soldyars furnyshed as followeth, viz.

viii to be furnysshed with muskyttes	} xl <sup>th</sup> .
xviii, with calyvers	
xiii, with corslettes and pykes	

The whole charge of these xl<sup>th</sup> soldiers and there armour and furnytur, that was att this present bought, and monye leyde forthe of them, as followithe, viz.

[The rest of the page is blank.]

(p. 21.) [Sep. 21, 1588.] *Ex parte Mr Worshippe*. Memorandum that Mr Worshippe in respecte he hathe beene pardoned for iiij yeres las[t] past, from beinge putt in Eleccion to bee Mayor, and this yeere also hath voluntarelye and freelye offred vnto bothe the Commpanyes att this present assembly, to serve the offyce of Meyraltie the next yeere, or else to geve and paye to the Chambre of this towne the summe of xl*li*. of lawfull monye, and yf he dye before, to geve to the same xl*li*. etc.

(p. 27.) *For the Watche*. Memorandum that all wayes on Assention Evon, the watche is to bee somoned, and is to begynn one<sup>2</sup> Assention Daye, accordinge to the statute. And the Constables and Thirdbarowes are to receyve there charge for the same two or three daies before by the Mayor at the Towne Hall.

#### CCLXXXII. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1587—8.] *Reccipts* £58. 7*s*. 11*d*.

*Dekeys*. Item the C(h)ambers over the Northe gate decayed for that the tenaunts be pore and not able to paye the rent 5*s*.

<sup>1</sup> a travelling case, see *New Eng. Dict.*

<sup>2</sup> one = on.

*Monye not paid to y<sup>e</sup> said Chamberlyns.* Item Christopher Aly-saunder behynd for certen playes and a beare beatinge 6*d*.

*Gyfts of wyne, rewards and oyer things...*to the Clarke of the Markytt 10*s*....to the Awdyters and Receyvour at Martles<sup>1</sup> at the Castle of Leycester one potell of clarett wyne and a quarte of sacke and a quarterne of sugar 2*s*. 10*l*....to the porter there 4*d*....to George Warde Bearewarde more than was gathered 4*s*....Earle of Essyckes playars more (etc.) 10*s*....a soldyar a travelor beinge a sergiant of a band 5*s*....a messenger that brought proclamacions towchinge the alteracion of weights 3*s*. 4*d*....Mr Thos. Cave...the Judges...Mr Recorder...Sir Geo. Hastings...a pursyvaunt that brought lettres from certen of the Counsell and the Barons of the Exchequor conserninge the sendinge uppe of the newe weightes...Bysshope of Lyncolne ...Earle of Darbye...Sir Geo. Hastings playors more then was gaythered...£5. 17*s*. 2*d*.

*Fees...*Mr Pellsant our preacher...Thomas Worshippe the mace-bearer for a pound of candles and for a bagge to kepe the weights in ...paid to hym for the mendinge of the bread ballons<sup>2</sup>...Mr Pellsant... more than was gaythered...a greate paper booke for a Regester booke for the towne, bought at London 3*s*. 4*d*....carryage thereof...6*d*....to carte hores and bawdes 1*s*....the byddle than for cartinge them abowte the towne...paynetinge of papers to sett on their headdes...to dresse and eyre the beddes and beddinge in the Recorders chamber...1*d*....wasshinge and dressinge of the bordes whereon the Quenes Majesties armes are paynted remeyninge in a chamber att the hall...genyper<sup>3</sup>... carte and cartinge of two aboute the towne 1*s*. 4*d*....coles and russhes ...£55. 3*s*. 7*d*.

...*Totall summe*...£66. 14*s*. 5*d*...the chamber...indebted ...£8. 6*s*. 6*d*.

### CCLXXXIII. *Minutes of a Common Hall.*

Hall Book III, p. 29. [Nov. 22, 1588.] *For kylles*<sup>4</sup>. Hit ys ordered at this Common Hall, that Valentyne Wells reforme his kylne and take yt downe before Candlemas Daye next, and after that daye doe not from thenceforthe vst<sup>5</sup> ytt anye more as a kylne. Vppon peyne of xls. for euerye defaulte.

*For a Scavenger.* Hitt is further ordered and agreed, to have a scavenger in this towne, to carrye all the manure and garbydge to

<sup>1</sup> ? Martinmas.

<sup>2</sup> balance.

<sup>3</sup> juniper.

<sup>4</sup> And in Hall Papers I, No. 266.

<sup>5</sup> *sic* for use.

places for the same appoynted for the onlye use of the tenaunts of our parte of the Graunge. And euerye howse to be reasonably taxed thereunto, and twyse a week to ley there manure in the streetes, and none to sell or geve there manure to anye straungers vppon payne of xxs. for euerye defaulte and not to ley anye in any pryvate back sydes, places or landes.

CCLXXXIV. *Charter of Elizabeth (translation)*<sup>1</sup>.

Roll 663\* and Box 9 A, No. 5 (a copy). [Feb. 17, 1589.] Elizabeth by the grace of God Queen of France and England Defender of the Faith etc. to all to whom these our present letters come, greeting. Know that, for the inward affection which we have and bear to our borough and town of Leicester in our county of Leicester, situated and lying in the midst of our realm of England, which is a populous and ancient town, parcel of our Duchy of Lancaster; and for and in consideration of good, true and acceptable service, done and executed before now and from day to day by our good faithful and devoted subjects the Mayors and burgesses of our town of Leicester aforesaid; and at their instance and humble petition; and for and in consideration that the borough and town aforesaid before now from old time was governed and existed corporate by a Mayor and twenty-four honest and lawful men in English called Aldermen, and by another society of forty-eight honest and lawful men in English called the "Companye of Eighte and Fortie," and that the business and services of us and of the public weal were executed from time to time by the Mayor and the societies aforesaid, incorporated by divers most excellent princes progenitors of the kings of England and our ancestors, and so continued till now, and confirmed by us; and further just occasion being laudably had for the preserving and continuing of the foundations and beginnings of the said erection; and because as we understand these beginnings are not found sufficiently firm and valid in law; for the devotion which we bear towards our subjects and for the relief, sustenance and maintenance of our borough and town aforesaid and at the humble supplication of our most dear and faithful subjects the Mayors and burgesses of our borough aforesaid, we have graciously granted that in our said borough there shall be erected, founded and established a body corporate in fact and name by which the men of our borough aforesaid from time to time may be guided and governed.

<sup>1</sup> The original is in Latin; it has not been printed by Throsby, Nichols or Thompson.

And we, desiring the general convenience and common utility, have ordered our beloved subjects inhabiting the same borough to be incorporated and erected into one body for ever to endure.

Know ye therefore that we, freely yielding to this pious petition, of our special grace, certain knowledge and mere motion, will, grant and order (the same) for us and our heirs and successors by these presents.

We ordain make and create, and by these presents name, elect, assign, and appoint, that henceforth and for ever in our town of Leicester there shall be a body corporate and politic for ever, consisting of a Mayor and twenty-four Aldermen and forty-eight burgesses chosen from the inhabitants of our aforesaid town, and the said body corporate and politic shall be called and styled and have the name for ever of the Mayor and burgesses of the town of Leicester. And by the same name they shall be persons able and capable in law of having, acquiring, receiving, holding and possessing lands, tenements, liberties, franchises, and hereditaments, to themselves and their successors the Mayors and burgesses of the said town for the time being, in fee and in perpetuity or otherwise at pleasure : also to receive, give, sell, grant, devise or assign the said lands, tenements and hereditaments, and to do all and singular other acts and deeds : and they shall be worthy and able by the same name to plead and be impleaded, defend and be defended, answer and be answered, in all manner of courts of us and our heirs and successors, and before all manner of judges or justices and other persons whomsoever in all and singular the actions, pleas, causes, matters and demands of whatsoever nature, kind or species they be, in as ample and beneficial a manner and form as any other the lieges of our queenly person, able and capable in law, or any other bodies corporate and politic within our realm of England are or may be able to acquire, have, receive, give, devise, grant, assign, plead or be impleaded, answer and be answered, defend and be defended,—the statutes issued concerning the not putting of lands and tenements in mortmain, or any other statute, act, ordinance, provision or restriction made, issued, ordained or provided before this time, or any other cause, thing or matter whatsoever in anywise notwithstanding.

And further of our special grace and mere motion we will and grant that one of the burgesses of our town aforesaid who shall be one of the society of four and twenty Aldermen shall be yearly, and every year from time to time for ever, elected to the office of Mayor of the said body corporate of our town aforesaid, and shall always be elected

to the aforesaid office by the more part of the societies aforesaid in the Guildhall of the said town yearly and every year from time to time for ever on the day of the feast of St Matthew the Apostle. And that our dear subject William Ludlam shall be first Mayor of the body corporate aforesaid and so shall continue exercising, using, enjoying and governing the office of Mayor aforesaid till the feast of St Matthew the Apostle next coming, and that the aforesaid Mayor and burgesses and their successors shall have, enjoy and exercise all and singular the liberties, jurisdictions, franchises, privileges, cognisances of pleas, customs, and power to hold all pleas of whatsoever actions, pleas and demands, and to keep all courts in English called "*Le Portmouthe Courte*" in the town aforesaid, and in all other things shall be held, treated and governed and under such mode, manner and form in all things as from time to time hitherto they were wont to be used, treated, or to enjoy, within the aforesaid town.

And further the aforesaid Mayor and burgesses of our town aforesaid and their successors shall have hold and enjoy for themselves and their successors all the issues, profits, commodities, emoluments and hereditaments whatsoever, such, so many, and of such nature and in such manner and form as any other Mayor and burgesses or any other body corporate of the said town now have or ever hitherto lawfully had or could have used or enjoyed, anything in our present charter notwithstanding.

And further if from henceforth it shall happen that the Mayor for the time being, shall die during the year of his Mayoralty, we will and grant for us, our heirs and successors, that then the aforesaid societies of the aforesaid four and twenty Aldermen and forty-eight shall unite in one in the Guildhall of the town aforesaid, and so assembled by the more part of the aforesaid societies, the four and twenty Aldermen and "*Lez eighte and fortye*," within six days after the death of the Mayor thus dying, they shall proceed without delay to the election of the new Mayor in the town, in the manner and form for electing as is aforesaid, and they shall elect a new Mayor and put him into the office of the Mayor.

And further of our more abounding and special grace and of our certain knowledge and mere motion, we give and grant by these presents for us our heirs and successors to the Mayor and burgesses of our town of Leicester aforesaid and their successors all and all manner of tables<sup>1</sup> and shambles within the town of Leicester aforesaid called "*Satterdaye Shambles*" and "*Saint Nicholas Shambles*,"

<sup>1</sup> boards, stalls.

together with a certain house and houses on the said "Satterdaye Shammelles" called "Le Draperie" with all the shops, tables and shambles in both, and pertaining or belonging to them and each of them or let or occupied with the said shambles and houses or any one or more of them: which said premisses lately were granted by us by indenture, sealed with the seal of our duchy of Lancaster, bearing date the 17<sup>th</sup> day of November in the 29<sup>th</sup> year of our reign, to a certain Edward Catlyn gent. for the term of 31 years by a rent of £8. 13s. 4d. Together with a horse-mill with two other tenements lying and being within the aforesaid town of Leicester lately in the tenure of Thomas Fisher and lately granted by us by indenture sealed with the seal of our said duchy of Lancaster, bearing date the 7<sup>th</sup> of May in the 23<sup>rd</sup> year of our reign, to a certain William Spencer for the term of 21 years by a rent of £4. 3s. 4d., together with divers lands and tenements parcel of the said town and manor of Leicester and parcel of the charge (*oneris*) of the bailiff there and lately granted by us (21 Nov. 17 Eliz.) to one Will. Singleton for a term of 21 years for a rent of 52s. 5½d. and by the said indenture particularly recited of certain lands and tenements thus demised to the said Will. Singleton, one close containing by estimation 2 acres of land with other lands called "le leaze" in "le Horse Fayre" of Leicester, now or lately in the tenure of Henry Moseley, and another parcel of land called Eyresland now and lately in the tenure of John Stanford and before of John Goddard, together with a parcel of land late called Le Lyon in St Martin's parish late John Stanford's, let under the seal of the county palatine of Lancaster and the Duchy seal (9 Aug. 21 Eliz.) to Edw. Fenton gent. for a term of 21 years at a rent of 13s. 8d. on expiry of Singleton's lease; and all the folds called "Lez Sheepe Pennes" in the market place and all the profits thereof, lately granted (27 Sep. 24 Eliz.) to the Mayor and burgesses, for 21 years at £4, and lands in the Honour and buildings on the walls and the ditches next the walls let to James Fenton gent. for 21 years for £4. 10s. 7d. Also all the lands, meadows, leasows<sup>2</sup> etc. late of the Hospital of St John and St Leonard and obit lands, i.e. the obits of John Elvett, Alice Walter<sup>3</sup>, Roger Fishwick, John Bingham, Will. Bedell, John Charity, Walter Dyatson<sup>4</sup>, let to Rob. Hayes and Stephen Harvie for 21 years, (13 May 16 Eliz.), leasows in Houghton late Roger Deacon's land in Barkby, Rearsby, and Thrussington, and Humberston, and the Pingle and lands in Seagrave, and leasows<sup>2</sup> called Kympton Hill, land in Bel-

<sup>1</sup> The lengthy formulæ of the original have been abbreviated.

<sup>3</sup> See Vol. II. p. 427.

<sup>4</sup> See Vol. II. p. 444.

<sup>2</sup> meadows.

grave, a toft in Hinckley, land in Braunston meadows and in Burgys meadow late held by T. Standford and R. Archer, 2 mills with "lez harns<sup>1</sup>" of meadow late G. Tatam's...land next St Sunday's Bridge, all let (27 Ap. 28 Eliz.) to S. Harvey and G. Tatam for 21 years for £14. 3s. 4d., water-mills called Syston mills on the water of Wreake let (6 May 26 Eliz.), land in the fields of Hungarton, the White Horse in Galtregate *alias* Galtergate, a virgate in St Margaret's fields, land in Countesthorpe late of the hospital of St John in Leicester, land called "Towne obite landes" in Leicester, rendering to the Dean, Prebendaries and 7 choristers, and in part let to Ric. Wylde and others, paying £10. 16s. of which 5s. is allowed for the vicarage and churchyard of the parish church of St Peter; a tenement in "Senvyegate" with a croft in Buckston Lane, and the guild of St Margaret with all its lands, let to R. Wylde; St John's chapel at the end of Belgravegate with the chapel yard; an old barn with the barnyard in Horsefair Lane and the chantry of Corpus Christi Gild with its lands let to R. Hawkes and T. Bate, Leicester land of the College of St Mary, 2 closes called the Vicars Closes, one next the Grange of the Newark and the other next the "Roode Dyke" let (22 June 27 Eliz.) to Ric. Wylde for 21 years at a rent of 22s., and land in the fields of Knighton called Fletcherland let (14 May 25 Eliz.) to John Chamberlain at a rent of 18s. 4d., all parcel of the lands of the College of St Mary of the Newark and the hospital of St John the Baptist and St Leonard and the obits and "Towne obit landes" and gilds called St Margaret's gild and Corpus Christi gild and the College of St Mary by the castle: all these are granted to the Mayor and burgesses of Leicester:

"To have and to hold all and singular the aforesaid lands, tenements, houses, cottages, mills, gardens, meadows, pastures, feeding-grounds and all and singular the reversions, rents, services, hereditaments, woods, underwoods and trees and all and singular the other premisses granted above by these presents and every parcel thereof with all and singular their rights, members and appurtenances, to all the aforesaid the Mayor and burgesses and their successors for ever in fee farm: To hold all and singular the aforesaid lands, tenements, houses, cottages, mills, gardens, meadows, pastures, feeding-grounds and all and singular the other premisses with their appurtenances of us the aforesaid queen and our heirs and successors as of our honour of Leicester in right of our said duchy of Lancaster by fealty only in free socage and not in chief: and to render thence yearly for ever to us

<sup>1</sup> hernes, horns, corner-pieces.

<sup>2</sup> In the form of the original.

and our heirs and successors in right of our said duchy of Lancaster to the hands of the particular receivers of the premises for the time being or to the hands of the general receiver of our duchy of Lancaster aforesaid or of their or any one of their deputies in this behalf for the time being for all and singular the premises above granted by these presents £137. 13s. 7<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d. (Distraining clause and clause claiming a fine of £20 for arrears, etc.) Witness myself at Westminster the 17<sup>th</sup> day of February in the 31<sup>st</sup> year of our reign.

Marwood.

### CCLXXXV. *Archer's Bills.*

Box 9 A, No. 10. Archer's bill 12 Jan. 1586 to 29 Feb. 1589. [Wrapped in a parchment folio from a twelfth century Latin MS. on telling the truth (?).]

Charges and payments of Ric. Archer in the company of Mr Thos. Clarke to London and Yorke for the sutes of the towne of Leicester in renewing the charter and for the fee farme of dyvers lands, unto the 26 Aprill 1587.

(Average daily charge covers dinner and supper 1s. 2d. Many entries for boat hire to Mortlake, to Greenwich etc.) A fat hearnshaw<sup>1</sup> to Mr Hayes 2s. 9d. ...fier, washing and lodging on week 3s. 4d. (a usual average)...geven to my lord of Lester his secretary who had in his hand our supplicacyon 20s. ...showes mending 8d. ... for the new drawing the peticyon the iiiii<sup>th</sup> time 10s. ...2 glas botelles geven to Mr Hayes and for iii quartes of wine in them 4s. 2d. ...a pint of muskadell and bread for Mr Recorder 6d. ...this day being seek<sup>2</sup> fesek<sup>3</sup> cost me with fyer 8s. 6d. ... geven in the howse to servants 22d.

March 29. My chargis at sent talbins<sup>4</sup> homward my hors and self 3s.

30. My chargis at breke hill, Northampton and Harrington 3s. 6d.

31. Hom to Leister and Harborow 10d.

My Journey to Yorke for letters of my lord Huntingdon 11<sup>th</sup> day of Aprill 1587.

Loughborough, Daunkester, Sherborne, York. (11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>.) (Home via Mansfield.)

Total £11. 19s. 11d.

London May 4—July 31. Geven to Mr Tusser a skotyshe dagger cost 10s. ... Payd unto my lord Huntingdon's secretary 20s.—2<sup>nd</sup> bill sum total £29. 12s. 11d. (etc. etc.).

### CCLXXXVI. *Minutes of a Common Hall.*

Hall Book III, p. 30. [Ap. 15, 1589.] *Towchinge the Fee Farme of Her Maiesties Landes, etc.* At this Commen Hall, declared by the mowthe of the Recorder. The swte latelye obteyned from Her Maiestye, viz. The confrmacion of a newe Charter and Corporacion<sup>5</sup>. The Fee Farme of all Her Maiesties Landes, sommetyme belonginge

<sup>1</sup> heronew, a young heron.

<sup>3</sup> physic.

<sup>2</sup> sick.

<sup>4</sup> St Alban's.

<sup>5</sup> See above, p. 247.



to the foure Colledges in Leicester, and the lease in reversion of the wholl Graunge, called the Newarke Graunge.

*Lettre of Atturney renewed*<sup>1</sup>. Also yt is nowe ordered and agreed vppon that the lettre of Atturney made to certen commissyoners, in the tyme of Mr Ellyce, Mayor, shalbe made of newe ageyne and better penned, and to have contynuance from the fyrst daye of Maye next comynge, for twoe yeeres, then next followinge. To the same commysyoners, for the better payinge and discharginge of suche debtes, as the said Commysyoners are in, in the behalfe of the towne, for the obtayninge of Her Maiesties graunt before mencioned, etc.

(p. 31.) *An order for the kepinge of the keys of the boxe wherein the newe booke of Fee Farme and newe Charter ys*<sup>1</sup>. Also yt ys agreed, that the saide newe booke of Incorporacion and Fee Farme from Her Maiestye shalbe kepte in the boxe therefore provyded, which hathe three lockes and keyes, whereof one keye, to be kepte by the Mayor for the tyme beinge, one other with the Recorder for the tyme beinge, and the thirde with the Chamberlyns for the tyme beinge. The which boxe is extante in the studdye at the Hall.

*Lendinge of monye for 6 monethes*<sup>1</sup>. All this monye paid ageyne att a Commen Hawll, holden the xvi<sup>th</sup> day of Decembre. Anno 1589 et anno domine Elizabethe xxxii.

Also hit is agreed and ordered by the Companyes aforesaid, that towards the payinge for the lande purchased of Mr Wightman lyinge in the Sowthe Feeldes, to lend monye for sixe monethes, viz. the xxiiii<sup>th</sup> xls. apeece, and the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> xxs. apeece, for the repayment thereof. The aforesaid Commysyoners haue vndertaken and promysed payment ageyne att the said sixe monethes ende.

Hall Book III, p. 32. (Aug. 18, 1589.) *Towchinge Mr Sacheverell our nowe Preacher*<sup>2</sup>. Att this Commen Hall it is agreed that Mr Sacheverell, the nowe Preacher<sup>2</sup> for this Towne of Leicester, and also confrator of the hospitall called Wigstons Hospitall, shall have for this yere followinge, of the Corporacion of this Towne of Leicester, to bee paide, by thandes of the Chamberlyns of the same towne, for the tyme beinge, in lewe or satisfaction of his stipende or sallorie (£6. 13s. 4d.) to be collected as followeth: viz. The xxiiii<sup>th</sup> to paye vs. apeece and the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> iis. vid. apeece. And the comunaltie to be taxed or assessed towards the same payment.

<sup>1</sup> Also in Hall Papers I, No. 274.

<sup>2</sup> William Pelsant B.D. had received the Lincoln prebend of Lyddington.

Memorandum that it was presentlye after this Common Hall agred vpon by some of the xxiiii<sup>th</sup> before Sir Edward Hastings, Knight, that the said preacher shall have for the said yere, twentie poundes, to be paied half-yerelye, the firste payment to bee att the Anuncyacion of the Virgyn Marye next, and therevpon a lettre to that effect, sent to the Erle of Huntingdon.

Aug. 31, 1589. *Pro electo maiore.* A metinge of them that haue bene mayors and chamberlyns for puttinge two in election for the choyce of the Mayor for the yere following.

Att this metinge by the most vowces was putt in election *ut supra* (2 names).

Ibid. p. 41. Dec. 16, 1889. (Note of the return of money borrowed from the 24 and the 48.)

#### CCLXXXVII. *Forfeiture of Boots.*

Hall Papers I, No. 275. Aug. 11, 1589. Boots made contrary to statute forfeited on presentment of a jury of corvisors.

#### CCLXXXVIII. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Papers I, No. 276. Aug. 13, 1589. (*Saltpetre man*<sup>1</sup>.) Meeting of the Mayor and Brethren touching Mr Fox the saltpetre maker.

He asks to break down mud walls apt for saltpetre<sup>2</sup> and will bear half the charge in building them up. He may do so if he repairs all that are in good condition, and pays half the cost of repairing those in bad condition.

He might throw down all apt for his purpose in the late suppressed abbeys and houses of religion and old castles within franchises and without. (Feb. 27, 1589.)

#### CCLXXXIX. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1588—9.] *Reccipts...* £60. 7s. 9d. *...Gyftes...* Her Majesties playars more (etc.) 10s. *...George Warde...* 28 Nov. to a pursyvant that brought proclamacions for the restraynte of transportinge of corne and grayne *...Earle of Sussex playars* whoe were not suffered to playe 20s. *...allmondes...* cakes *...apples* to the Ladye Turpyn *...proclamacions* ageynst seditious and schismaticall bookes and lybells *...others* moe

<sup>1</sup> See Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 291, and below.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 221, note 9.

of H.M.'s playars more (etc.) 10s....Mr Skevington then highe sheryff and dyvers other gentlemen with hym at a greate bearebeatinge then had...wyne...suger and tenne shillings in gold...Ladye Hastings...Mr Mannors att his howsse att Elston<sup>1</sup>...a gentleman of the Lorde Chauncellors that rydd poste to the Earle of Shresburye...Mr Fraunces Hastings...the Judges...Mr Sacheverell the preacher...proclamacions inhibitinge the execution of anye exemplificacion of H.M.'s graunte of the penaltye of the statute for sowinge of hempe and flaxe seede<sup>2</sup>...charges of the Recorder att the eleccion of the Mayor and other busynes 18s. 5*d*....charges of the eatinge of venyson more than was gaythered 11s. 1*d*....£7. 19s. 2*d*.

*Fees*...12 Oct. paid to the Sheryff for the fees for the certefyinge of the indentures of the names of the burgesses of the parlyament...charges of the suyte in the Castle Courte ageynste Mr Rychard Dylkes whoe impounded certen beasts of the tenaunts of the Graunge for provizion monye 10s....twoe sessions and twoe gaole delyverye dynners 26s. 8*d*....a booke for the assyce of breade 4*d*....Mr Rowes...sent to London with letters to the Earle of Huntingdon abowte the deteyninge of Mr Pellsant our preacher<sup>3</sup> 27s. 4*d*....J. Underwood for a sword and dagger beinge one of our soldyars and left with hym for fees and victualls in the hall the partye thaire had beinge thither committed by the Alderman 1s....caryinge to Mr Stanford...a privy seale for the lone of monye emongest others sent to the Towne...ale druncke atte Underwoods when possessyon was taken of H.M.'s landes in Leicester 6*d*....the same tyme geven to the pore folkes in St Mayryes close 4*d*....booke of the statutes of anno xxxi Eliz. 1s. 8*d*....certefyinge into the chauncerye of the certyfycate of the collectors name[s] for the payment of the fyrste fytenne and tenthe...whiche they officers thaire tooke as their fees and ought to have non...6s....a weynescott cheyre remeyninge in Gaynesburye chamber for the Mayor to sytt in by the fyer 9s.

*Reparacions*...freeschool dore...makinge agen of newe of all the erthen florthes att the hall after the saltepeter men 4s. 4*d*....a locke to locke the comen stryke on the markett dayes in the open markett 1s....gettinge of fylthe from the Sowthe gate 2*d*....workemanshippe abowte the towne hall...

*Total summe* of all the paymentes ys £62. 13s. 7*d*. So the chamber ys indebted...£2. 5s. 10*d*....

<sup>1</sup> Aylestone.

<sup>2</sup> 5 Eliz., c. 5, § 19.

<sup>3</sup> In the paper book the bill is entered on a separate slip, with items for dinners, suppers, horsemeat, ostler's and "chamberlen's" fees.

CCXC. *Letters on town business.*

Portfolio of Letters, No. 17. [Oct. 4, 1589.] (Mr F. Hastings to the Mayor): I presume Mr Mayor that I have deserved a greater favour from the towne of Lecester then this I shal now desire which is only to pray you that wheras I am to receive £100 at or about Holloutide come twelfe moneth from your towne, you woulde worke me this frendship that I may have it at May day next. I presume you wil not stick with me for halfe a yeare and upon so good a warning.

[Dec. 24, 1589.] Right worshipfull, with remembrance of my humble deuty gevinge your worshipp thanks for your courtesye showed vnto me etc. These are to certifie your worshipp y<sup>at</sup> I have accordinge to my promise moved my Lorde of Warwicke<sup>1</sup> conserninge Foxe<sup>2</sup>. Whose Lordships pleasure is y<sup>at</sup> certifficate be made vnder your worships hand and other of your brethren, vnto my Lord Tresorer, of the dealinge of the sayd Foxe, as also the order of his commission and wherin he hath passed the sayd commission; and thervpon order shalbe taken, for my Lord of Warwicke hathe reffered all such cawses to my Lord Tresorer almost a year agone, because his Lordshipp will not be trobled, and he himself will deale with my Lorde Tresorer beinge far from his noble mynd to hurte any man livinge, although he might much les<sup>3</sup> to have his lordships name caried amongst a multitude, and I thinke yt will not be amisse to wryte to his honor lyke wyse y<sup>at</sup> he may be more mindfull of the premisses and I myself wilbe sollicit to do your worshippe and the towne any service or good I can. And so I humbly committ your worshippe to the Almightye who ever kepe you with encrease of worshippe and healthe. London this 24 of December 1589.

Your worships most assured to command,

Elizabeth Mathewe.

Hall Papers I, No. 296. [Jan. Feb. 1590.] Maye yt please you Mr Mayor, wheare there hathe bene dyvers speeches emongeste vs on the foure noone of this daye, oure answere nowe ys, as followeth, viz.

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<sup>1</sup> Ambrose Dudley, who died Feb. 20, 1590.

<sup>2</sup> The saltpetre man.

<sup>3</sup> les = lose.

Fyrst: that all the landes and tenements geven vnto vs by Her Maiesties lettres patents, we desyre maye remayne to the vse of the Mayor and burgesses, accordinge to Her Maiesties graunte thereof.

Item that the towne maye be sett in possessyon of all the said landes and tenementes, accordinge to the tenour of the same graunte, to the vse of them and theyre successors.

Item that none of the said lands and tenements bee sold, butt by the consent of a Commen Hall, and that y<sup>e</sup> Commen Seale do not passe but by the consent of a Commen Hall.

Item our desyer ys, that theyre maye bee a juste accompte made, that they maye have there owne, in truethe and right, as they oughte to have.

Item that the whole Companye dothe fynde them selves greaved that the late Mayor, Mr Noryce, dyd sett the towne seale, with oute the concent of a Commen Hall.

Item wee doe fynde ourselves greeved, for that the commysyoners have bought and sold parcell of the said lands and tenements, emongst them selves withoute a consent.

Item wee wolde have a parfytt survey taken of all the said lands and tenements.

John Mabbes(?)	John Freak
Raffe Chettell	Thomas Hunt
Thomas Wyln his mark	John Woodford
Thomas Bugg his mark	Oswald Eyre (?)
George O(l)dam	Christopher Sutton
William Byggs	[and others illegible].
Richard Bourstal	

Hall Papers I, No. 292. [Jan. 7, 1590.] The copie of the precept sent to certen of the creaditors of Thomas Grene of Leicester, butcher.

After our hartye commendacions, whereas wee have receyved lettres from Her Maiestie commissioners [Sir Owen Hopton<sup>1</sup> and others] touchinge the relief of her distressed subiectes, which are casuallie fallen into decaye, and not able to yelde present satisfaction to their creditors, and by the same commissioners (amongst others) there is sent vnto vs a petition of one Thomas Grene, conteinginge his want and vnabilitie to paye his creditors. And also that he is indebted vnto youe in dyvers sommes. And for that the said commission of Her Maiestie tendithe to take order for the payment of the same debtes, due to suche creaditors, in suche

<sup>1</sup> The letter is in Hall Papers I, No. 268.

convenyencie as may bee, and for that the same Thomas is not able to yelde youe present payment, by anye possibilitie, we are therefore willinge by all dilligent meanes to execute our service, to satisfye Her Maiesties commissione: Haue thoughte good, to signifie vnto youe the effecte of the same, requiringe youe by vertue of the said direction, to come before vs, vpon (space left blank) next comminge, in the forenoone of the same daye, in the towne of Leicester, to the intent we maye deale withe youe, and doe our best endeavor to make a charitable ende, in suche sorte as youe maye be satisfied of your iuste debte, and the said Thomas Greene so relieved as he maye in convenient tyme be able to paye the same. Thus fayle youe not, as youe tender the avoydinge of your further trouble. Soe commendinge youe to the Allmightie, wee leave youe. Leycester, the vii<sup>th</sup> daye of Januarye a. r. r. Elizabethe xxxij

your lovinge frendes (unsigned).

Portfolio of Letters, No. 18. [Feb. 6, 1590.] [R. Parkyns and R. Heyricke to the Mayor.] They have dealt as directed by the Mayor and brethren with Mr Edmunds<sup>1</sup> touching his lease and offered £200 for it. He refused "withe some unkyndnes that we weere so unprovided in so longe tyme and not resolved, his curtesie considered that frste made offer thereof to us, and thus as he saiethe delaied the tyme and frustrate his conceived opinion that we ment to go throughe with him, and nowe hindered his procedinge therein and his chapmen therefore. And he saiethe we should rather have furthered his advauntage for his masters sake who hathe shewed his favor to us in our late sute and delyvered the same to him in lewe of a greate recompenc." The writers modified his determination not to sell to the town. Tatam, Norris, Moreton and the Clarks, "whom I account men of meete affection to the towne" and others should be called to consider the matter what detriment it may be to all in Leicester if it come to the hands of a stranger. "And remember how your predecessors have been urged by perverse fellowes and howe youe and youres maie be likewise agayne intreated if it come into a wranglers handling. And that if youe have it, youe maie make meanes in tyme to make it perpetuall to the towne." Edmunds' price is £200, for it is worth more than 100 marks yearly. The writer urges haste "for the factions arre entered so farre to over rule your good men as we will do nothing without warrant. We have received allredie thankeles recompence for a great endeavour

<sup>1</sup> Called Edwards below.

allredie bestowed, and in this good accion as in all others they will not be at home to do youe any good. And if youe will do any thing for the gunnepowder man<sup>1</sup>, nowe is the tyme or not at all, and I dare not medle without your assent and warrant, for the kyndnes before shewed and like sequele."

P.S. The difference in price is 100 marks. It may be dear but "the grete plentie of quyetnes and other incidents thereunto" may make up. "The ferme of the Busshops fee is<sup>2</sup> sold in fee simple."

Hall Papers I, No. 300. [Feb. 11, 1590.] The Mayor and burgesses to the Recorder Parkyns. The Recorder's letter was read in a common hall. The conclusion is that Mr Edwards' lease is too high priced for the town to buy as it is greatly in debt. If Edwards will farm it to the town for a year or two on reasonable rent, we will become his tenants and so discover whether it is worth having or not. Thanks are offered to him and Mr Danett for giving the town the first offer. As concerning the saltpetre man it was hoped the Recorder would have considered it. Since his going to London we (received?) H. M.'s proclamations for the calling in and frustrating of all commissions for the making of saltpetre granted before that to Geo. Evelin<sup>3</sup> and others 28 Jan. 1588. We regret that we cannot observe the premises according to the Recorder's expectation and our late determination.

#### CCXCI. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 44<sup>4</sup>. [Feb. 11, 1590.] Att this commen hall the parties then and their assembled viz. the XXIII and XLVIII<sup>th</sup> as by the recorde of their names remeyning on the fyle of this Mayors yere<sup>5</sup> dothe appeyre, doe acknowledge theimselfes satisfied with the bargayne of the landes and tenementes assured unto Geo. Tatam by the commissioners or committies of the towne of Leicester in lewe of his moyetie of his lease which he and Mr Harvyne helde together of her Maiestie.

#### CCXCII. *Examination of a prisoner.*

Hall Papers I, No. 305. [Feb. 15, 1590.] Henry Boote "being demaunded howe he cam by the said satten saythe he had ytt in Fraunce and that his captyn called Captyn de Mullon<sup>6</sup> with a 500 soldyars, he beinge one, went to bezeege a towne (the name he remembrythe not) and a churche at this syde the towne was fylled with men,

<sup>1</sup> In Hall Papers I, No. 303, it is noted [Feb. 11, 1590] among the minutes: "The towne hathe no lykinge to buye the lease but are contented to farne ytt for a yere...and for the saltpetre man nothing is done for that he was not in towne."

<sup>2</sup> MS. *in*. The lease in question seems to have been of land in the Fee.

<sup>3</sup> On Evelyn's gunpowder factory, see *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

<sup>4</sup> Also in Hall Papers I, No. 303.

<sup>5</sup> Hall Papers I, No. 304.

<sup>6</sup> Probably on Lord Willoughby's expedition; perhaps Mevillein (Melaville) where Lord Willoughby was Dec. 23, 1589.

women and children of the enmyes the which churche they burned and at that spoyle he had this peece of saten and a peyre of Frenche garters...somewhat lyke blue.

CCXCIII. *Letters on an orphan's estate.*

Hall Papers I, No. 269. [March 5, 1590.] Mary Fleming, a poor servant, to the Mayor, complaining that her "child's part" (share of her father's property) is denied. As a town-born child<sup>1</sup> she claims the £8 due to her. The clerk had attempted to satisfy her claim with £4 which she refused. If not paid she threatens to use "that means which upon reasonable satisfaction I should be loath to practise."

Ibid. No. 271. [March 16, 1590.] Same to same, thanking for the Mayor's favour. She leaves her cause in his hands and acknowledges receipt of £4<sup>2</sup>.

CCXCIV. *A butcher's licence.*

Hall Papers I, No. 311. [March 7, 1590.] The condycion of this recognisance ys suche, that wheareas the right honorable Henrye Earle of Huntingdon, Lorde President of Her Maiesties counsell establisshed in the northe partes, and Lorde Lievtenent of her Highnes' countye of Leycester, hathe by his wrytinge vnder his hande and seale, bearinge date the seconde daye of Marche laste paste, lycensed and authorysed the above bounden Rycharde Payne, to buye, provyde, kyll, dresse, vtter, sell and putt to sale in the towne of Leycester duringe the tyme of Lente, then next ensuinge, to all nedefull parsons, theese kindes of flesshe, viz. mutton, veale, and lambe, accordinge to the tenor of certen orders conceyved and sett downe by the lordes of Her Maiesties Pryvye Councell, as by the said lycense more at lardge dothe and will appeyre: Therefore yf the said Rycharde Payne doe nott duringe this Lente tyme sell no fleshe, but to suche parsons as shal shewe vnto him speciall warrante for the same from the Mayor of the towne of Leicester aforesaid, and doe also truelye keepe a booke of his dayelye sale, and of the names of those to whome he shall so sell anye fleshe, with the quantities and the tymes thereof: That then this recognisance to be voyde and of non effecte, or else to stande and remeyne in full strength and vertue.

Rychard Payne.

<sup>1</sup> She claims the borough custom, resembling the London custom of distribution. Cf. Vaughan Williams, *Executors*, 8th edition, 11. 1533.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. No. 343. [July 2, 1590.] She urges her claim again and gets the balance due, £4.



CCXCV. *Sir Francis Walsingham on the Preacher.*

Portfolio of Letters, No. 19. [Mar. 10, 1590.] Sir F. Walsingham to the Mayor and Aldermen and the rest, praising Thomas Sacheverell, whom he had made vice master of Wigston's hospital; his salary as preacher ought to be at least equal to Pelsant, the late preacher's, and that was over £40 a year<sup>1</sup>. (In full in Thompson's *Leicester* pp. 289—290<sup>2</sup>.)

CCXCVI. *Minutes of a Common Hall.*

Hall Book III, p. 44. [March 27, 1590.] *Another charge for Soldyars.* Firste yt ys agreed that the xxiiii<sup>ti</sup> shall paye xiiis. iiiid. apece, towards the charges and furnisshinge of iiiix<sup>s</sup> soldyars. And the xlviii<sup>ti</sup> vis. viiid. apece, whereof fortye was in all thinges fullye furnished and trayned before the Erle of Huntingdon.

*Soldiars.* Also it is further agreed that the Mayor and Justices of this towne, and the Alderman of euerye warde within the same towne, shall tax and asseesse euerye inhabytant in euerye warde (except the two Companies) towards the aforesaid chargies.

*A Brother.* Robertt Roberdes appoynted one of the xxiiii<sup>ti</sup> or Mayors Bretherne, and sworne Mydsomer Daye.

*Annuity Preacher sealed.* Memorandum this Mydsomer daye at y<sup>e</sup> metinge of bothe y<sup>e</sup> Companies Mr Sachaverells annuytye was sealed etc.

Collector of the fifteenth elected. Queen's commissioners for the subsidy. Two selected for the office of Mayor, by the consent of the most part of the 24 and 48.

Assize of candle fixed by the Mayor and two Justices at 3*d.* a *lb.* Penalty for wife or servant of chandler infringing the same. Another 'syce' (assize) of candle by the Mayor and two Aldermen, 3½*d.* a *lb.*

CCXCVII. *Petition and order on town business.*

Hall Papers I, No. 319. [Ap. 14, 1590.] Certen petitions exhibited to therle of Huntingdon at Leicester, by the Mayor and Burgesses there etc. viz.

Oure humble petition to your Lordship is in respect of our greate

<sup>1</sup> In Hall Book III, p. 44 [Mar. 13, 1590], is a minute recording that his stipend was raised from £20 to £30 "by the earnest sute and labor of the Earl of Huntingdon."

<sup>2</sup> For *old town* read *whole town*.

debt, and povertye, to qualifye (as may seem good to your lordship) the greate charge we lately susteyned, and nowe doe, with xli<sup>ti</sup> armed men<sup>1</sup> and nowe charged from your lordship with iiii<sup>xx</sup>, our accustomed charge never exceedinge tenne, savinge once xx<sup>ti</sup>.

Also there ys a saltepeter maker within this towne, whoe reporteth he will throwe downe our mudde walls, beinge the common seasing<sup>2</sup> of our towne, which yf he performe, will bee in damage to the towne, a thousand markes or there aboutes.

Also there bee certen of our inhabitantes that latelye (to avoyde the charge of the towne, as also the service of Her Maiestie) procure them selves the lyverye of certen gentlemen.

Further the freemen of our towne (inhabitinge in the bisshopps Fee) are charged with the cuntrye and also the towne.

Lastlye wee yeld to your lordships mocyon, towchinge our preacher.

Hall Papers I, No. 320. [Ap. 14, 1590.] An order from the Earl of Huntingdon settling the town's dispute with R. Archer<sup>3</sup>. He and his heirs are to enjoy all lands passed under the common seal : for the pains he had in the town's suits and for surrendering his interest in a lease, and for surrendering a bargain made by him and the commissioners for the town lands, the Mayor and burgesses are to pay £200 and make him a lease of all he holds of H. M. to last for 21 years.

### CCXCVIII. *Observation of Lent.*

Hall Papers I, No. 328. [May, 1590.] Letter from Richard, bishop of Bristol (Almoner), to the Mayor on the observation of Lent and the payment of fines to H. M.'s High Almoner for breaches of the orders on Lent.

Ibid. No. 331. [June 10, 1590.] The Mayor to R. Parkins, Recorder, passing on the above letter and asking advice thereon.

Ibid. No. 332. [June 12, 1590.] The Mayor's reply to the Almoner's letter. Offenders against the order plead licences and "for that they are H. M.'s naturall subjects and thereby heritable to the privyldges and benifitts of the common lawes, I cannot but accordinglye deale with them." He will use persuasion to get them to compound for the penalty and waits the return of the Recorder<sup>4</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> In Box 4 A, No. 5 [Aug. 28, 1590], is Dethick's note of the ward payments from commoners to the "sessments" towards the charges of 40 footmen. In Box 8, No. 196, is Freake's bill for their furnishing [Aug. 28] £49. 11s. 1d., for mending armour, providing hose, shoes, shirts, ribbon, canvas for doublets and breeches.

<sup>2</sup> possession.

<sup>3</sup> On p. 322 is Archer's petition to the Earl, undated, concerning the above. In Portfolio of Letters, No. 20 [June 28, 1590], the Earl sends Archer's petition to the Mayor and complains of non-performance of promises. He asks to be informed of the cause of further dispute that he may remove it. See below No. cccviii.

<sup>4</sup> Portfolio of Letters, No. 21, is a letter from Lewes Mordaunt to the Mayor and Aldermen [July 1, 1590] on Westowe's claim against Mordaunt's servant. He hears that Westowe is a lewd clamorous fellow and asks for information.

CCXCIX. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 48. [Sep. 21, 1590.] On the advice of the 24 and 48 and of the Recorder arrangements are made to pay £600 due from the town to G. Tatam and T. Clarke by allowing the sale of town-lands by the Recorder and five others<sup>1</sup>.

[*Mayor's Election*<sup>2</sup>.] Also at the said Common Hall, yt was further ordered and agreed vppon, that att the assembles or meetinges of the two Companyes hereafter, for the elleccion of the Mayor, for the yeere followinge, and also att all other Common Halles, all suche of either of the said Companyes as shall att anye suche meetinge for the eleccion of the Mayor or Common Hall bee than absente, shall not have anye voyce either for the eleccion of the Mayor, or anye other matter at anye Common Hall hereafter. And all such persones as shall so bee absent, to paye their synes vicz. the XXIII<sup>th</sup> xiid. apeece, and the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> vid. apeece, withoute license gevon by the Mayor, for their absence. And the eleccion of the Mayor to bee allwayes hereafter made by suche of the said two Companyes, as then onely shalbe present, and so likewyse of other matters, cawses or thinges, at all other Common Halles or meetinges.

CCC. *Chamberlains' Account.*

Unnumbered roll. 1589—90. *Rents*...£23. 3s. 2d. *Chapmans Gylde* (etc.)...taylor...butchers...bakers...shoomakers (ordinals)... Affabell Watson of Markefylde picture maker for libertye within this towne for ii quarters of a yeere...12d....two acres of meadowe in Burges Meadowe parcell of the lease of Mr Harvyne and Tatam... Stewards of the fayors towards the repayringe of the Cawsye att Galtrye Gate Towns ende...late Mayor...uppon the accompte of the moneye gaythered for the trayninge and charges of soldyars... £26. 1s. 0d.

*Other receipts* of the XXIII<sup>th</sup> and XLVIII<sup>th</sup> and comynaltye beinge taxed...towards the charges and furnyssshinge of fourescore soldyars whereof XL<sup>th</sup> were presentlye after furnyssshed and trayned (butt went not) and the other XL<sup>th</sup> to bee in a readynes but all quiet (for the said yere) God be preysed: the monye collected

<sup>1</sup> Further deeds connected with the transaction are in Box 9 A, No. 13 (20), and Box 5 A, No. 6.

<sup>2</sup> And in Hall Papers I, No. 363.

followeth viz. firste received of 22 of the XXIII<sup>th</sup> 13s. 4d. apeece...and of Mr Rowes then dwellinge in the Bysshoppes Fee 6s. 8d. and of Mr Worshippe other of the said Companye of the XXIII<sup>th</sup> nothinge... 42 of the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> 6s. 8d. apeece...(one named, 2s. 6d.), (two named) nothinge but are contented the towne shall stoppe on theires of the money owinge them by the towne, lent when Mr J. Clarke was Mayor...Comyners (11 wards)...£42. 7s. 1d.

*Summa* £91. 11s. 3d.

*Dekeys...Cheif Rents...Gyftes of wyne* (etc.)...George Warde the beareward more (etc.) 4s....therle of Sussex pleyers in reward, not playinge 10s....pursyvaunte that brought proclamacions for the restraynt of certain comyssyoners for the makinge of salte peter 6s. 8d....at the christonyng of Mr Henry Hastings child in Leycester... two muzicions beinge servaunts to the Earle of Essex 2s....geven to certain playars playinge uppon ropes at the Crosse Keys more (etc.) 23s. 4d....wyne geven to the Scottishe preacher 1s. 4d....Judges at the Assyses...clarke of the markytt...

*Fees and other payments.* Mayor for his fee £13. 6s. 8d.... Recorder...£4...Clarke of the peace...6s. 8d....Chamberlyns for there fee 40s....to the Clarke of his yerely sallorye or wages 26s. 8d.... usshers...byddle for his wages 26s. 8d....harnest men for attendinge of Mr Mayor...

*Reparacions...*for slating the schoole howsse...the towne hall... amendinge the waye at the East Gate...Pyllorye and Gaynesborowe Chamber...Cowe hey yate...cawsye at Galtrye gate end...att a penny the yarde...

*Soldyars...*trayninge of fortye soldyars and furnytur (wantinge) bought for them...a hyde to leyther the armour withall...curryinge and dressinge of the same hyde...a syncke foyle graven in iron to marke the armour with...leading of the said soldyars...with his drumme...gevon emongest the soldyars to dryncke when they were released...£29. 2s. 6d.

*Sum* £97. 9s. 5d....

<sup>1</sup>Furnytur for the warres remeyninge att the Towne hall viz. tenne corselettes and 10 pikes. Item 12 vewe<sup>2</sup> bowes and 14 sheyfes of arrowes...40 swords 40 daggers and 40 gerdells 9 muskitts and one bastard<sup>3</sup> muskytt, 20 calyvers, 27 flaskes and tuche boxes 8 bandrolls<sup>4</sup> and 9 muskett staves 19 almond reyvytts<sup>5</sup> 9 blacke bylls and 3 halberts 21 spanyshe murryans 6 blacke murryans 14 skulles and 40 cappes,

<sup>1</sup> This list is also in Hall Book III, p. 47, and Hall Papers I, No. 349.

<sup>2</sup> *i.e.* yew.

<sup>3</sup> *i.e.* large or unusual-sized.

<sup>4</sup> pennons.

<sup>5</sup> See notes above, pp. 26, 168, 183.

a horsemans harnes, a stythie to amend the armour uppon. Item in the parler att the hall remeyninge 6 halbertts, 29 leyther buckitts and half a hyde...a barrell with some gonne powther, etc.

CCCI. *Subsidy Roll.*

Box 10 A<sup>1</sup>. [Oct. 12, 1590.]

A copie of the seadule for the seconde payment, of the firste subsidye, graunted to the Queenes Maiestie at her sessions of parlyament holden at Westminster, the fourth daye of Februarye in the one and thirtieth yere of her reigne. And due to her Maiestie, within the towne of Leycester, etc.

*Warda Georgii Tattam.* William Yates in goodes, *vli. vs.*

Robert Gyllatt in goodes, *iiii*li*. iiis.*

Dorothie Darker, wydowe, in landes, *xxs. xvid.*

Oswolde Eyre in goodes, *iiii*li*. iiis.*

Agnes Myddleton, wydowe, in landes, *iiii*li*. iiis.*

Christofer Sutton in goodes, *iiii*li*. iiis.*

John Pensall in goodes, *iiii*li*. iiis.*

Thomas Tayllor in goodes<sup>2</sup>, *iiii*li*. iiis.*

Summa *xxviis. iiid.*

*Warda Jacobi Clarck.*

Jefferye Davye in goodes, *vi*li*. vis.*

Arthure Hyndman in goodes, *iiii*li*. iiis.*

John Mabbes in goodes, *iiii*li*. iiis.*

John Woodforde in goodes, *iiii*li*. iiis.*

Summa *xvis.*

*Warda Roberti Heyrick.*

Robert Heyrick in goodes, *x*li*. xs.*

Jane Manbye, wydow, in goodes, *viii*li*. viis.*

Marye Heyrick, wydow, in landes, *xxs. xvid.*

Agnes Strynger, wydow, in landes, *xxs. xvid.*

Thomas Cotton, gentleman, in landes, *v*li*. vis. viii*d*.*

Blace Vyllers in goodes, *vi*li*. vis.*

Thomas Nixe in goodes, *vi*li*. vis.*

Robertt Pilkington in goodes, *iiii*li*. iiis.*

Henrye Halpeney in goodes, *v*li*. vs.*

<sup>1</sup> This box contains subsidy rolls for 1586, 1589, 1591, 1593, 1594, 1599, 1600. One is given as a specimen.

<sup>2</sup> The names of two others who were not assessed are given on the separate slip, of which the above is a fair copy. The ward totals shew that the fraction taken was a twentieth roughly speaking.

Thomas Andrewe in goodes, *iiii/l. iiis.*

Wylliam Stanley in goodes, *iii/l. iiis.*

John Wylcockes in landes, *xxs. xvid.*

Valentyne Welles in goodes, *iii/l. iiis.*

Thomas Chettell in goodes, *iiii/l. iiis.*

Summa *iii/l. is. viiid.*

*Warda Jacobi Ellyce.*

Mr James Clark in goodes, *vii/l. vis.*

John Smalley in goodes, *vli. vs.*

William Hobbye in goodes, *iii/l. iiis.*

Summa *xiiiis.*

*Warda William Morton.*

Wyllyam Morton in goodes, *xli. xis.*

James Ellyce in goodes, *xli. xs.*

John Pottle in goodes, *iii/l. iiis.*

Rycharde Archer in landes, *xli. iis. viiid.*

Rycharde Orton in goodes, *vli. vs.*

Robert Carter in goodes, *iiii/l. iiis.*

Christofer Nedam in goodes, *iii/l. iiis.*

John Johnson in goodes, *iii/l. iiis.*

John Hampson in goodes, *iii/l. iiis.*

Agnes Rodes, wydow, in landes, *xxs. xvid.*

Elizabeth Gadesbye, wydowe, in landes, *xxs. xvid.*

Barthollomewe Parnell in goodes, *iii/l. iiis.*

Anthonye Webster in goodes, *iii/l. iiis.*

Lebyns Chamberlyn in goodes, *vli. vs.*

Mychaell Thornton in goodes, *iii/l. iiis.*

Summa *iii/l. is. iiiid.*

*Warda William Noryce.*

William Noryce in goodes, *xii/l. xiis.*

John Stanford in goodes, *xiii/l. xiiiis.*

Thomas Clarck in goodes, *xli. xs.*

Edwarde Newcome in goodes, *iiii/l. iiis.*

Henrye Byddle in goodes, *xli. xs.*

John Wilne in goodes, *iii/l. iiis.*

Robert Clyston in goodes, *iii/l. iiis.*

Henrye Pare in landes, *xxs. xvid.*

Thomas Pare in goodes, *iii/l. iiis.*

William Greene in goodes, *iii/l. iiis.*

John Bonnytt in goodes, *iiii/l. iiis.*

Thomas Bugge in goodes, *iiii/l. iiis.*

Summa *iii/l. xis. iiiid.*

*Warda Johannis Tatam.* (Northe Gate.)

John Tatam, Maior, in goodes, xii*li*. xii*s*.  
George Tatam in goodes, vii*li*. vii*s*.  
George Noryce in goodes, vii*li*. vii*s*.  
John Hynde in goodes, vii*li*. vii*s*.  
Robert Robardes in goodes, vi*li*. vi*s*.  
Hugh Marshall in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.  
John Knight in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.  
Jone Sheyffeld, widowe, in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.  
William Bigges in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.  
Robert Woolley in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.  
Arthure Tatam in goodes, v*li*. v*s*.

Summa li*x**s*.

*Warda Thome Clarck.*

Richarde Burstall in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.  
John Freake in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.  
Thomas Wylne in goodes, v*li*. v*s*.  
John Foxe in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.  
John Byddle in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.  
Thomas Huntt in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.  
John Spencer in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.  
John Ardes in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.  
Robert Heyrick, glover, in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.

Summa xxx*s*.

*Warda Willelmi Ludlam.*

Edward Conyars, gentleman, in goodes, x*li*. x*s*.  
William Ludlam in goodes, vii*li*. vii*s*.  
Raphe Chettle in goodes, vi*li*. vi*s*.  
Hughe Hunter in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.  
William Tayllor in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.  
Henrye Newbolde in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.  
Richard Overend in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.  
Thomas Eyrick in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.  
Randall Stanford in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.  
Robert Atton in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.  
William Warde in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.  
Edmund Hawkes in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.

Summa lii*s*.

*Warda Willelmi Wurshippe.* (Southgate ward.)

William Worshipp in goodes, v*li*. v*s*.  
John Borrowes in goodes, iii*li*. iii*s*.

Robert Aston in landes, *xxs. xvid.*

Edwarde Hydes in landes, *xxs. xvid.*

John Greenewoodd in landes, *xxs. xvid.*

Summa *xiiis.*

Summa totalis *xxli. vis. viiid.<sup>1</sup>*

Mr John Hynde, mayor.

The names of the commissioners, viz. The Earl of Huntingdon, The Maior of the town of Leicester, Thomas Cave, Francis Browne, Rychardye Parkyns, recorder of y<sup>e</sup> towne aforesaid, James Clarke, William Morton, Robert Heyrycke.

### CCCII. *Examinations before J.P.s.*

Hall Papers I, No. 366. [Oct. 14, 1590.] Joan Johnson examined. A man came to her house: his apparel a black doublet "cut and torn of the sleeves: he had on knitt neyther stocks the which she saithe she footed of newe and he did putt them on unskowered or washt and had on bootes."

Ibid. No. 367. [Oct. 19, 1590.] Ed. Wilcocks examined. His "apparel a blacke jeryn of freese and a blak clok and blewe neyther stocks." Where did he get his blue coat and "daggar enameled" worn when he was last at the Bull in Leicester?

Ibid. No. 375. [Nov. 14, 1590.] Ellis Bunning examined, for "cosening" at cards. "He saythe that Ryc. Mowsehole ys the man that dyd cossyn the pore fellows at the cardes...and he ys one that dothe gayther under one Will. Powell for the Marshallsey or Kings Benche and they goe eyther of them with tippstaves" (etc.).

Ibid. No. 379. The above examine was bound over.

Ibid. No. 378. [Nov. 28, 1590.] Edward Jefferey examined on a charge of horse-stealing says that since Lady Day "he hathe had no servyce butt wandered to and froe to gentlemens housses where he was best knowne, to get a meales meate to kepe hymself from follye."

Ibid. No. 379 (2). [Dec. 14, 1590.] Agreement before the Justices to keep two orphan children without charge to the town.

Ibid. No. 301. [Feb. 3, 1591.] (Note of stuffs found.) A Flemish angel...a gilded penny...<sup>2</sup> wrought coyfe, 2 shirts, 4 shirtbands, "4 handkerchues whereof one ys wrought and 2 payor of cuffes, and one peece of old velvytt which wos a Frenche hoode, one payre of whyte woollyn knytt stockes, a pece of huswyves russett."

### CCCIII. *Will. Worship's Accounts<sup>2</sup>.*

Hall Papers I, No. 372. [Oct. 28, 1590.] My charges to London vs.

Fryday and Saturday, the last of October for my table at London *iis.*

November.

Given to our Attorney *iiis. iiiid.*

Given to the messenger to call in Mr Tusser *iiis. iiiid.*

<sup>1</sup> The separate slips for each ward are attached and give the names of the assessors and constables.

<sup>2</sup> Probably in connection with the suit for the closes, see No. CCCVI. below.



For bott hyer *xiid.*  
 Given to my Lord of Huntingdons page *xiid.*  
 Item given to our counsell *vli.*  
 Given more to Mr Esket our counsellor *30s.*  
 Given to Mr Cole my lords secretary *xs.*  
 Delivered to Mr Archers vse *30s.*  
 For my clocke, twyse washinge and dryinge *iiiiid. viiid.*  
     December the fyrst dayes.  
 Tewsday, Wedensday, Thursday and Fryday, for my table *iiiiis.*  
 Given to Mr Allyn and Mr Cotes *xs.*  
 Given to Mr Audly, Mr Chaunchelers man *xs.*  
 For searchinge of the Ould Dutchey office, the augmentation office, Savoy  
 office, Grayes Inne office, and the New Dutchey *xiis.*  
 For coppys taken out of the same Courtes *ixs. iid.*  
 Given to the porter of the Savoy *viid.*  
 Given to Mr Coles man *viid.*  
 For wrytinge a supplycacion fayre to giue to Mr Chancheller *xiid.*  
 Given to Mr Recorders man *iiis. iiiid.*  
 Payd for an order settinge downe concerninge the towne and Tusser *xiid.*  
 The xxx dayes of November for my table *30s.*  
 For xii fagottes *xiid.*  
 For 35 dayes at *xd.* a day for hay and *iid.* bread for my horse *35s.*  
 Item for iiiii newe shewes for my horse *xiiiid.*  
 For a newe pare of shewes and solinge of them *iis. viiid.*  
     The fyfte of December.  
 My selfe and Mr Archer came from London and lay at St Allboones y<sup>at</sup> nyght  
 and spent in charges of our selfe and our horses, with our breakefast in the morninge  
 vs. *xd.*  
 The vi day we came to Stony Stretford and spent of our selves and our horses  
*xiiiid.*  
 And at nyght to Northampton: our charges theare for our selves and our horses  
*iiiiis. viid.*  
 For our breakfast on Munday morninge *xiid.*  
 For frostneales *viid.*  
 For my close washinge *xiid.*  
 To the Chamberlyn, y<sup>e</sup> ostler, and maydes *viiid.*  
 The somme to be payed ys *ixli. viiis. viid.*

CCCIV. *Request for a warrant.*

Hall Papers I, No. 374. [Undated: circ. Oct. 1590.] Mr Mayre,  
 I desyeare your worshype to have a warrant of good aberyng of  
 Wylliam Staples the tayllur for that he has abewsed me and all my  
 compeny that are sworn men in showch<sup>1</sup> woords: he came to me in  
 this sort and called me owte of my shope and sayd I was a skalde  
 rascold and a veeland<sup>2</sup> and an old chorole<sup>3</sup> and sayd by gods preses

<sup>1</sup> such *i.e.* the following.<sup>2</sup> scurvy rascal and villain.<sup>3</sup> chorole = churl.

blod and gods wownes I wyll thwrst my dagger in the prowde weela(n)d what so ever he be that dowse present me and besheche your worshepe to consyder my case for I ham in age and leves with the labar of my hands and he beyng a lewd fellow may dowe me a shore<sup>1</sup> town and therfore I desyere your worshepe to let me have my request for I shall not be in qwyet at my work nor in no plase that I go in and for gods sake I aske it for I have good wytt(n)es of his woordes and therefore I wyll not pout it up.

### CCCV. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 53. [Nov. 20, 1590.] Assize of beer fixed at  $3\frac{1}{2}d.$  a gallon for new ale "as well by the common brewer as by the tippler which breweth strong ale to sell." Stale ale however strong  $4d.$  a gallon, and a quarte for a penny and a pint for  $\frac{1}{2}d.$ <sup>2</sup>

<sup>3</sup>Order that the backside of a certain house be not used as a kiln, but shall be taken down, viz. "the cloth and floreth<sup>4</sup>." No kiln to be used standing near any house.

Act for nightwalkers to be put in use<sup>5</sup>.

Alderman's deputy appointed.

### CCCVI. *Suit for the Closes*<sup>6</sup>.

Box 9 A, No. 13 (8). [May 1590—Feb. 1591.] Note of charges touching the town's suit in the Duchy Court concerning title to the closes near the Forest, belonging to the Grange. (Costs of various legal enquiries specified.)

Hall Papers I, No. 327. [Undated.] Nota, that when Kinge Henrye the Eight did disforrest the frythe, then dyd the Deane and Chappter of the said Newarke showe forthe there charter to the offycers of the Kinge, for there comen of pasture in the same frythe, to the value of xxiii<sup>ti</sup> beastes and more, and of vi mares and a stud horsse.

In consyderacion of which common, the said Kinge graunted vnto the said Colledge the said common of pasture, to be taken in a certen grounde called Braunsted pasture.

And after the said pasture, beinge surcharged by the tenauntes of the said Colledge, the other tenauntes thereof findinge themselves greved therewith: Order therevpon was taken by the Kinge and

<sup>1</sup> shore = sore.

<sup>2</sup> In Hall Book III, p. 58 [Sep. 12, 1591], because the Mayor was a victualler, a baker and brewer were chosen in his place as assizers of victuals. And half the fine for breaking the assize was to go to the "poor man's box," the other half to the searchers in each ward.

<sup>3</sup> Also in Hall Papers I, No. 377 (obliterated).

<sup>4</sup> ? close and floors.

<sup>5</sup> See p. 73, above.

<sup>6</sup> See p. 219, above.

Deane and Chapter aforesaid that the said Deane and Chapter shoulde have to them selves the said closes. And the other tenautes had allotted vnto them the resydue of the said pasture conteyninge by estymacion 120 acres, the which close hathe beene ever sythence occupied by the tenautes thereof by lease from the prynces: withoute clayme of the closes, belonging to the Grange.

Box 5 A, No. 7. [1590—1.] (Michaelmas term. Commission appointed (Thos. Cave, Thos. Beaumont, Thos. Skevington and John Plumme) to examine witnesses in the cause between the Mayor and burgesses and Tusser, Cater and Somerville.)

### CCCVII. *Minutes of a Common Hall.*

Hall Book III, p. 54. [Mar. 26, 1591.] *Town Wall.* ...Non whatsoever...shall dekey or pull downe the towne wall or any parte thereof, by gettinge of stones except by license first graunted at a common hall uppon payne of xxs. etc.

*Towchinge the unytinge of St Peters to All Saynts.* Item yt ys agreed by the greater (part) of the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> and XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> now assembled that the late parishe of St Peters in Leicester shalbe unyted to the newe parishe churche of All Sayntes in Leicester. There was assembled at this metinge of boath Companyes fy(f)tie and fyve, whereof all but XIII or fiftene gave there consents to the said unyon for that they were bydden by Mr Mayor that so many as wold not consent thereunto should goe forthe of the hall or parler. So as thereupon there went out but fyfteene or there abowtes, the said Mr Mayor sittinge in the parler still. Then said Mr John Stanforde "yt ys agreed, for heere remeyneth still," or "here ys the greater parte." And thereupon the hault break uppe. Yett after Mr Mayors departure oute of the parler, there was some defuzion<sup>1</sup> and altercacion, for that the other syde or parte viz. Mr James Clarke and they of St Martyns parishe said they were the greater parte. Quere.

### CCCVIII. *Archer's Case*<sup>2</sup>.

Portfolio of Letters, No. 22. [May 18, 1591.] R. Parkins to the Earl of Huntingdon. The Earl's letter and Archer's petition have been received. They (the town) are willing to keep their agreement. "There is mystakinge by some of our Companye or by the said Archer touchinge your lordship's meaninge in the

<sup>1</sup> Used apparently for 'confusion.'

<sup>2</sup> See above, No. CCXCVII.

order sett dounce." Some understand that Archer was to have £200 for his pains in the suit and to enjoy the lease he held of H.M. for 21 years and Archer affirms that in consideration of releasing a bargain he made with "the most part of the commyttees" he should have the fee farm of all those things he held in lease from H.M. worth about £13 a year. As also for loss of time and pains during 4 years and for inserting divers particulars "into our book<sup>1</sup> for our avail" he says he was to have by the Earl's order the said lease for 21 years and £200 in money, of which at that time he had received £100, and further to enjoy such parcels granted unto him under our common seal by the said first bargain being about £4 a year. And as some of the company did mislike the said bargain made by the commissioners they and Archer referred ourselves to the Earl, and, his order (being) misconceived by some, will the Earl set it down again?<sup>2</sup>

In Hall Papers II, Nos. 19, 22, 24, 26, 29, 30, 31, 33, 35, 37, 38 are further terms of agreement drawn up and not consented to by Archer, with discussion thereon<sup>3</sup>.

Portfolio of Letters, No. 28. [Dec. 1, 1591.] The Earl of Huntingdon to the Mayor. From Broadstreet. He repeats his arbitration on Archer's case. He was to have all the parcels of land he then held in lease of H.M. to be passed by the town to him in fee farm. The Earl did not intend to lessen his well-merited reward, whereas the lands he so held were worth about £13 a year, and he then had passed unto him under the common seal £3 or thereabouts yearly in fee farm only and should have had the rest by lease for a term of 21 years, and in consideration of the interest he had by the said agreements in £10 a year more than he holds in fee farm, the Earl ordered the payment of £200 to him of which he has received £100. He will accept it in little parcels of land, or would employ £50 of the money towards setting up of clothing or other public benefit for the town. During life he would reserve this money for the disposing of himself and one other, and on his death give it to the public use.

### CCCIX. *Poaching in Bagworth Park.*

Portfolio of Letters, No. 23. [Sep. 22, 1591.] Sir Edw. Hastings<sup>4</sup> to the Mayor on the reasons why he requested the arrest of Andrew Dale for an assault on the highway. He had letters from the parties that brought the hue and cry and he caused a privy search. The offender also hunted my lord's deer in Bagworth Park. He must be bound over.

Hall Papers II, No. 15. [Oct. 21, 1591.] Letter from an apothecary to Jesson, his brother-in-law, accusing Dale of assault and robbery. "His apparell is browne

<sup>1</sup> *i.e.* charter, see above No. CCLXXXIV.

<sup>2</sup> The bargain of the Commissioners with Archer is in Box 9 A, No. 11 (7), dated Oct. 19, 1587. Ric. Parkins and others under authority from the Mayor and burgesses grant to Ric. Archer and his son for pains in the town's suit for the fee farm, if successful, that they shall have all they now hold by lease from H.M. so far as the town can grant it. R. and F. Archer covenant to give in exchange any part or all of the land which R. Archer now holds of the Queen in the South Field, in such manner as the same shall be granted and reserved by H.M. to the Mayor and burgesses.

<sup>3</sup> The suit was continued, see below.

<sup>4</sup> Sir E. Hastings had been made Steward (called also Town Clerk) of Leicester by his father Henry Earl of Huntingdon June 16, 1591: see Box 3 A, No 3. The Earl held the office under a patent of 24 Nov. 9 Eliz.

myllyan<sup>1</sup> fustian, both dublet and a peare of round howse and a peare of morre<sup>2</sup> stocking with a lytle boy foloing him in a rusat clocke a canvis tublet his age is about XIIIII yearis."

The examination of Dale follows. Ibid. No. 34, Roger Bromley writes to Sir E. Hastings on Dale's case, on the killing of deer in Bagworth park. In Portfolio of Letters, No. 25, Sir E. Hastings [Oct. 20, 1591] orders Dale, against whom a warrant is out for suspicion of felony, to be "stayed," he being now "within the corporation."

### CCCX. Chamberlains' Account.

Unnumbered roll and original draft in a paper volume. [1590—1.] *Rents of assize and at will* £27. 17s. 11½*d.*...*Chapman's Gild* £4. 15s. 0*d.*...*Receipt*...occupation of bakers...shoemakers...glovers...tailors...butchers...weavers...due from a Constable of money towards the charges of the soldiers...receipts which was gaythered of the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> and XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> towards the payinge of Mr Sachaverell our preacher his styPend...£5. 2s. 6*d.*<sup>3</sup>

Total £26. 11s. 6*d.*

*Rents* of the land sometime belonging and esteemed as part and parcel of the hospital of St John and Leonard appertaining to the late college of St Mary lately granted to the town by the Queens Majesty (rental of houses etc.) in Abbey gate, North gate...meadow called the Shield meadow...and a hadland<sup>4</sup> in Burges meadow...Senvy gate...North gate...South gate...Swynes market...Loseby lane...Belgrave gate...Galtrye gate...Rental of lands parcel of Hawkes and Bates lease<sup>5</sup>...Rents newly increased (19s. 6*d.*) other receipts of money parcel of the accounts of the Commissioners...

*Other Receipts.* Fyrst received att the hall dore the 30 Oct. the Queenes Majesties playors then playinge 10s....att the hall dore the Erle of Westers<sup>6</sup> playors then playinge 6s. 8*d.*...the Erle of Hartfords playors then playinge 6s. 8*d.*...the Mayors sergiantt which was by hym received of the Mayors Bretherne for vi playes and one bayre-baitinge 44s....of the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> for the same...48s. Sum £5. 15s. 4*d.*

*Receipts* of the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> and XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> and comyna(l)tye towards the charges and settinge forthe of 10 soldiars footemen sentt forthe into Fraunce July 1591. The XXIII<sup>ti</sup> (at 3s. 4*d.* each) £3. 16s. 8*d.* Certen

<sup>1</sup> myllyan = Milan.

<sup>2</sup> morre = mulberry coloured.

<sup>3</sup> In Portfolio of Letters, No. 24, is a letter from the Earl of Huntingdon [Oct. 16, 1591] urging punctuality in paying the preacher's wages. He praises Sacheverel (unnamed) and believes his discretion will obtain the love of Leicester men if they love the Gospel. But the town was full of "notable hinderers" when the Earl lived there. In full in Thompson's *Leicester* p. 290.

<sup>4</sup> headland.

<sup>5</sup> Corpus Christi Gild lands, see above, No. CCLXXXIV.

<sup>6</sup> Worcester.

of the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> being taxed at 20*d.* apiece with certen of them dwelling in the Bisshoppes fee by name (4 named)...certen others of the said XLVIII<sup>th</sup> by name (5) paid nothings at all £3. 5*s.* 8*d.* Received of the Commoners in all the wards £2. 13*s.* 0*d.* Total £9. 15*s.* 4*d.*

Total of all receipts £207. 7*s.* 0½*d.*

*Paymentes.. Dekeys...Cheif Rents...*a messenger that broughte the Queenes Majesties proclamacions 23 Oct. for forbyddinge the transportinge and carrynge of grayne and beare oute of the realme...Queenes Majesties players by the appoyntment of Mr Mayor and his bretherne 40*s.*...Earle of Wosters playars...20*s.*...George Warde beareward...Earle of Harfords playors...Queenes majesties proclamacions towchinge the prices of wynes...proclamacions to forbydd all manner of persons to resort to any townes hold by the French Kings rebells or to traffique with any of them...Mr Culverwell the preacher...Mr Pellsant the preacher...Mr Morton preacher...three straungers Hongaryans beinge late captives and travelinge whom<sup>1</sup>, towards their charges 4*s.*...Earle of Wosters playors...20*s.*...Earle of Sussex playors...33*s.* 4*d.*...pounde of suger given to Sir James Harryngton Knighte...Queenes Majesties playors another Companye called the Children of the Chappell...26*s.* 8*d.*...Lorde Dakars playours in reward which were not suffered to playe 2*s.* 6*d.*...

*Fees...*blewes for the fyrste soldiars cotes...goldsmythe for mendinge of the towne salte...undersheriff for the fees for the arreste of (2 named)...uppon an accion of trespasse aboute the Closes in the Frythe parcell of the Graunge...2 hundred of sey cole 10*d.*...for certen charges we were forced to yelde unto concerninge the suyte brought agaynste Mr Mayor and his Chamberlyns towchinge Parkers [children]<sup>2</sup> ...for their partes, and for suyng oute of a *dedimus potestatem* or commissyon to take the answere of the said Mayor and Chamberlyns here att whome<sup>1</sup> (and other expenses connected with the same)...Mr Sacheverell the preacher...his half yeres stipend...£15...£5 in full satsfacyon of Parkers chylidrens partes for quietnes sake...paper and yncke for the wholl yere 3*s.* 4*d.*

(Expense of the interrogatories touching "the Closes in the Frith parcell of the Graunge"...dynner of xiiii of the chiefest gentleman 14*s.* ...xxviii<sup>th</sup> others 14*s.* etc.)

(Payments for 10 foot soldiers sent into France, 5 furnished with

<sup>1</sup> home.

<sup>2</sup> In Box 9 A, No. 13 (11), is a further record of the claims of Parker's children to their "parts." Oct. 14, 1591. See above, p. 260.

corselets, 1 with a musket, 4 with callivers, press money 4*d.* apiece, mending 6 corselets, 10 headpieces; 15 yards of white broad cloth, and 3 $\frac{3}{4}$  of "orrendge color kersey for cotes" £5. 15*s.* 0*d.*, 8*d.* a day each to the soldiers, conduct money 7*s.* each, the captain 50*s.*...one of the soldiers towards buying hose and shoes 12*d.*)

*Reparations*...slating at bothe the towne halles...to paynte Mr Reynolds house otherwyse called the Newe Howsse, nexte the schoole...

*Total*...£199. 5*s.* 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*...remayneth to the Chamber £8. 1*s.* 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*

### CCCXI. *Court of Fairs* 1591—3.

Hall Papers II, No. 100. [Oct. 2, 1591.] (Names of Stewards and Jurors.) Wee present Mr Rowes for anoying the Beast Market with certaine carts...Wee present W. D. for breaking the queenes majestes peece in gyvyng T. W. a boxe uppon his face. (And other accusations of making bloodshed.)

Ibid. No. 197. [Oct. 2, 1592.] Presentment of Mr Rowes for "denoying" the street with great wood at his back gate, and John Peares for lack of appearance at this court of "pyepouders," and all those persons which occupy the well in the Saturday market.

Court of Fairs. Dec. 10, 1592. May 4, 1593. We present a "lame" (lamb) taken up by R. Whyte, thyrdbarrow, which lamb is dead<sup>1</sup>.

Court of Fairs. June 26, 1593. We present R. Herrick for not carrying away the dung and filth lying at the Friars' gate (Freers' yeatt) a great annoying to the same street.

We present J. Newbold, thyrdbarow, for taking up one hive (=ewe) and one lamb.

### CCCXII. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 64. [Nov. 19, 1591.] *Actes renewed*<sup>2</sup>. Also it is agreed at this Common Hall, that the acte for nighte walkers, and the acte for Straungers and Inmates, and the acte for commynge to the Sermondes<sup>3</sup>, bee euerye of them in all poyntes and respectes, putt in execucion, and severelye looked vnto and observed from tyme to tyme, by the head Magestrate and the Aldermen in euerye warde etc.

(Surveyors of the commissioners' accounts, selected from the 24 and 48, to take a survey of Her Majesty's lands granted in fee farm.)

<sup>1</sup> The report is presented of "waifs and strays," taken by the "thirdbarrows" or "frith borhs."

<sup>2</sup> See above pp. 173, 162, 156, for these three acts.

<sup>3</sup> Also in Hall Papers II, No. 36.

(p. 65.) *Ex parte Robt. Eyrycke, glover*<sup>1</sup>. Allso at this Common Hall itt was moaved in the behalf of Robertt Eyricke, late of Leicester, glover, whoe ys gonne owte of the towne of Leicester to dwell, and doth nowe dwell in Mountsorell, wheyther he maye not vse his trade or occupacion still in Leicester, and theire keepe shoppe, as he did when he dwelt in Leicester, and there buye and sell, as he then did, yee or noe. The which was then denyed, and further agreed vpon att the same Commen Hall, that he the said Eyrycke shall not soe doe, vicz. neyther keepe shoppe, nor buye nor sell within the said towne or lyberties thereof, butt onlye as a straunger dwellinge in the country; whiche ys for the markett dayes and fayor dayes, vicz. the Sayturdaye Markytt and fayor dayes onlye.

### CCCXIII. *Letters of the Recorder.*

Portfolio of Letters, No. 29. [Dec. 12, 1591.] Copy of a letter from R. Parkins to Sir E. Hastings. From Bunny (Boney). He had hoped to attend to answer the question about the Leets at Leicester, but he cannot ride without peril, he is "worne so weake." If he recovers he will come. "As I knowe youe arre honorable discended, so I knowe your conscience suche as youe will offer no wronge": will advise the town to seek "your good will."

Ibid. No. 30. Same date. The same to the Mayor, on his dealings with Sir E. Hastings. He asks Mr Dethick to seal his enclosed letters to Sir E. H. If Sir E. is not satisfied but "will needes usurpe uppon you newe customes never harde of heeretofore, then maie you seeke by all peaceable and lawfull meanes to keepe the Queenes righte and custome within her towne so as ytt bee done withe discretyon meet for your place and in all peaceable manner. I doubte not your circumspection therein, that you doe wiselie and warelye and with greate temperance haveinge aboute you sounde and honest wytnesses of your lawfull proceedings. And in the meane tyme ytt maie please you to desier Mr Dethick to looke oute the Charters of Gerragaunt<sup>2</sup> Duke of Lancaster and to procure secretlye a coppie of the Mayors othe when he ys sworne att the Castle." He will come as soon as he can ride. "I hope these with your newe charter and the customes of the duchie confirmed by acte of Parliament will worke some safetye of our righte in the premisses."

### CCCXIV. *Summary of the finance of the Fee-farm transactions.*

Box 9 A, No. 12<sup>3</sup>. [Feb. 1592.] The Queen's gift of lands in fee farm to the Mayor and burgesses, the greatest part candle rent is of the yearly rent of £137. 13s. 7½d.

H. M. has also given a lease in reversion of the Grange for 31 years the yearly rent reserved £32. 1s. 4d.

<sup>1</sup> Also in Hall Papers II, No. 36.

<sup>2</sup> John of Gaunt. See Vol. II, No. CXIV.

<sup>3</sup> See also Box 9 A, No. 13 (18).



Part of which fee farm is employed thus :—

We paid to Stephen Harvey for his moiety of the lease of St John and Leonard £170 and then assured to G. Tatam his partner in the lease, for the other moiety in lieu of the like sum, lands described below<sup>1</sup> of yearly rent £1. 16s. 6d.

Assured to R. Archer in fee farm in consideration of a lease and of his travail, rents described below<sup>1</sup> £4. 14s. 4d.

Archer has of the town's, which they pay interest for, £100.

Assured on trust to G. Tatam and Tho. Clarke for them to sell in fee farm in consideration of paying £600 of the town's debt, lands of yearly rent £20. 2s. 8d.

Sold to divers persons lands worth £303. 13s. 4d. of the yearly rent of £22. 3s. 8d.

Total yearly rents £48. 17s. 2d.

Total received for lands sold in fee farm £903. 13s. 4d.

v<sup>o</sup>. Note of leases made by the Mayor and burgesses out of lands held of H. M. in fee farm (particulars given of houses in Galtrye gate, in St Margaret's church gate, South gate, Senvye gate, Applegate street, Bukston lane, and near Little Bridge, let in part to A. Tatam to the use of his father J. Tatam). Sum £18.

Paid out to F. Hastings for two leases of the Grange £713. 6s. 8d.

To S. Harvy for his half of the lease of St John and Leonard £170.

Fee simple of a tenement and two yardlands £86.

Paid to Fenton for a lease of the town wall and ditch £20.

Other payments on our suit £1648. 17s. 9½d.

Total £2638. 4s. 5½d.

Particulars of G. Tatam's lease, and Archer's and other sales, one to Rob. Aston the schoolmaster, and to Will. Dethick, town clerk, a piece of ground called St Michael's churchyard in payment for writing etc. yearly rent 4s., and to G. Tatam on a mortgage of the North Mills.

A garden against the Mayor's hall in St Martin's parish sold to T. Clark for 30s.

Particulars of lands of £20. 2s. 8d. rent assured to G. Tatam and T. Clarke in lieu of payment for £600 of town's debt viz. after 30 years' purchase : including certain "leysures"<sup>2</sup> in Houghton, lands in Rearsby and Hungerton, Syston mills and holmes<sup>3</sup>, Thrussington, Segrave, Kirby Mallory, Countesthorpe, "leasures" in Kympton Hill, yardlands in Belgrave and Hinckley, a croft in Bromkinsthorpe and certain lands in the West Fields in Mr Danet's tenure, lands in the fields of St Margaret's parish, meadow near the North Bridge in the parish of All Saints, in the occupation of the parishioners of St Margaret's a house called "St Jones<sup>4</sup>," another, St George's hall, a piece of meadow in Burgess meadow called the Shield and half an acre and two "hadlands" of meadow there belonging to the Shield, 2 acres and one hadland in Burgess meadow, a croft in Braunstongate, a croft called Wye close<sup>5</sup>, the Lion in the High Street, ground near the Talbot, "errable" land in the West Fields, a close in Paradise in St Mary's parish, a meadow in Glenfield, a croft called the Checquer in St Margaret's parish, a close in St Margaret's parish near the pinfold ; all houses etc. lying on the walls and ditches, with list of tenants at a yearly rent of 41s. 8d.

Particulars of lands sold to G. Tatam and T. Clark out of the bargain made to them in lieu of £600, certain leys or parcels of meadow in Houghton land and "leasures" in Rearsby &c., a piece of meadow called Kympton Hill in Belgrave,

<sup>1</sup> Full particulars are given on an unnumbered roll (with the chamberlains' account rolls of 1590—1600).

<sup>2</sup> leasows, meadows.

<sup>3</sup> The receipt is in Portfolio of Letters, No. 27.

<sup>4</sup> St John's, probably St John's hospital.

<sup>5</sup> Cf. above the particulars pp. 217—8.

land in Hinckley and also the "gysture of the offyce of the forren bayllie<sup>1</sup>" there every seconde yeare, the Shield in Burgess meadow in the South Fields. Lands on the town wall and ditch near the Saturday Market &c.

The whole sum received Feb. 1592 of the said bargain towards the payment of £600 of town's debt is £559. 8s. 4d.

### CCCXV. *Letters on town business and the Recordership.*

Portfolio of Letters, No. 31. [Feb. 22, 1592.] The Earl of Huntingdon to the Mayor and brethren, from Nottingham. He has received a note of receipt for coals through Will. Roe, wherein is nothing specified of the year 1590—1591. He asks that the disposing of that stock for the public benefit of the town be considered. The bearer John Clarke has asked to have the employing of the stock : and will give security for the principal and employ it to the setting on work of many in the town about clothing and relieving of such of the poor as cannot work.

Ibid. No. 32. [Feb. 24, 1592.] R. Parkins to the Mayor, from Bunny. He regrets his continued illness "knowinge well I am not borne for myselfe butt for the common wealthe : my many journeys in heate and cold without profit to my selfe maye manifest the same." He must take care for his children's sake, "the rather for that I ame informed the wardshipp of my eldest sonne is allreadie begged yf I dye." He asks to be excused from the assizes "for necessytye hathe no lawe." He longs to come "for dyvers secrettes not hurtfull to the towne. In the meane tyme I praye youe have a speciall care to keepe vnytie amongst your companys. And I praye youe intreate Mr Dethick<sup>2</sup> to geeve the chardges for me. Yt shall not neede him to be verrie curious therein butt goe playnelie therto as he shall best lyke for the ease of the Judges. I know the man can doe yt well and is carefull and honest to do all thinges as apperteyneth."

Ibid. No. 33. [March 22, 1592.] The Earl of Huntingdon to the Mayor and burgesses from York. He hears that Parkins, the Recorder (whose sufficiency for the place he commends), intends to resign. He recommends Mr Humphrey Purifie to succeed him, whose integrity, honesty of life and good knowledge they know to be sufficient for the place, if Parkins insists in his determination to leave, "whereof I doubt not you will have such consideration as shall well behooove you."

Ibid. No. 34. [March 16, 1592.] (Signature illegible) to the Mayor. The writer gives a message from the Earl to deal well with Archer for his faithful service in the suit<sup>3</sup>.

Ibid. No. 35. [March 24, 1592.] The Earl of Huntingdon to the Mayor from York. He complains that his letter is unanswered and its order unperformed. He requires order to be taken to provide coals or else that an answer be sent.

Hall Papers II, No. 53<sup>2</sup>. [April, 1592.] (The Mayor to the Earl.) After oure humble duties remembred to your good Lordshippe, wheare it is suggested (as we perceyve by your lordshippes lettres) that our recorder (Mr Parkyns) determyneth to leave his recordershipp, whiche is vnknown to vs, nor (we hoope) he hathe

<sup>1</sup> Right of pasture enjoyed by the holder of the office of bailiff of the foreign of Hinckley.

<sup>2</sup> As Mayor's clerk.

<sup>3</sup> See above, pp. 271—2.

<sup>4</sup> A draft. Cf. Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 293.

no suche intendement althoughe he hathe hadd somme myslyke to see vs disioyned [by] the populer factyon of one or two: And that somme of vs have been so vnthankfull to your lordshippe and others, that be deserved so gretelie to the benyfit of our towne, yf we coulede soo vse ytt. Theise disorders hathe mutche allienated the mynde of our said recorder, whoe allwaies hath perswaded to vs vnytie and concorde, yet nowe perceyvinge (by your lordshippes good meanes) that we are lycklye to be reduced to our former peace, and that the faction of a private man<sup>1</sup> ys espied (by the whole) to be vnprofitable to all. And that the same hathe growen of singularitye without cawse or reason, forgettinge God, her Maiesties goodnes and our benefactors, he is nowe better appeased to see our reconcilment to lyve in vnytye, and to amende that ys amysse, wherein (and for our better aide herevnto) we most humblie desire your lordshippe cowntenaunce towards good men, and suppressinge the contrarye emongest vs. And further (towchinge our said recorder), the many good guiftes he ys indewed withall we cannot but commend, nor we can not (in reason) but imbrace and reteyne his good disposition and greate paynes with vs this manye yeres, but with thankfull myndes to content hym. And althoughe we know hym of that temperance, to take all in good parte, without seekinge anythinge for his gayne, we are therefore the rather [willing] to have consideration of hym, accordinglye. These therefore considered, he ys not emongest vs (as we can perceyve...<sup>2</sup>) not effectuallye desier his contynuaunce, and for that we knowe your lordshippe hathe knowne hym and affected him...by manye yeres which surelye on his parte ys not forgotten, we are the rather for your lordship sake to do to him, and so we desire yt maie be, least he shoulde thincke vs to vse hym woorse (after his manye yeres travell for vs) then the carter his horse, who althoughe he dye vnder his loode, yet is he well provendred in his lief. And where as in your lordshippes lettres the 22 of February we vnderstand that one John Clarke of our towne of Leicester hathe made petition vnto your honour to have thimployinge of the stocke of coles, and hath informed you, that he will make vs sufficient securitye for the principall, and (to) imploye the same to the settinge on worke of manye in our towne aboute clothinge and relyevinge of suche poore amongest vs as cannot worke, we vpon the receipt thereof demanded of him, what securitye he colde put in for the same, who answered, he wold not name his sewerties, before he did knowe when he shoulde

<sup>1</sup> Probably Tusser, see p. 219 and below.

<sup>2</sup> illegible.

haue the monye, and then he was wylled to name his suerties, and he shoulde be answered when he shoulde haue the monye, which to doe he refuzed, and more of hym we hard not, vntill of late he brought vnto vs one other lettre from your lordshippe of the 24 of Marche, wherevpon (vpon sufficient securitye) we haue offered to delyver hym fortye poundes in hand, and the rest before the vi of June next, puttinge in securitye accordinge to your lordshippes said former lettres. He therevppon hathe named two vnto vs to be his suerties, the one of them a straunger lyuinge in our towne called Pilkington, a man of greate age and lyveth onlye vpon a small annuytye, and the other ys father in lawe to the said Clarke, a man of small habillytye, and not men sufficient for our discharge therein. Notwithstandinge we are readye to accomlishe the content of your lordshippes said lettres, in suche sorte as we maye be sufficientlye discharged thereof and nowe at the makinge hereof, we promysed hym xlii. at Maye daye, so we maye knowe the sufficiencye of his suerty one sevenight before, which he hathe promysed. And thus hopinge in your good acceptacion of this our mynde touchinge our... and our other cawses as well for the preacher and Archer and otherwyse...<sup>1</sup>.

Portfolio of Letters, No. 36. [Ap. 22, 1592.] From Bunny. R. Parkins to Mr Dethick. He cannot write to the Mayor as to-morrow is our great day for choosing the coroner etc. He missed Lord Huntingdon, after two days on horseback to await him, because he went by Newark and not by Nottingham, disappointing many. Hutchinson has been long suspected. Now you have taken him "with the mayner<sup>2</sup>," wherefore he is notailable. He details that he has discovered from another examine certain parts of Hutchinson's movements, concerning which enquire further. They belong to the "crewe of the falsest knaves in the contrey." He received the letter by Hutchinson's daughter. It may have been opened.

Ibid. No. 37. [Ap. 24, 1592.] From Brampton. James Norwich addresses the Mayor on behalf of his brother John Norwich committed to prison for misdemeanours shewed to Mistress Chippingdale<sup>3</sup>. He offers surety.

Ibid. No. 38. [June 2, 1592.] The Earl of Huntingdon to the Mayor. From his house in Broadstreet. The bearer John Clarke has been long a suitor to have the disposing of the coal money to the benefit of the poor by setting them to work about clothing, for as much as he and another have given bond for the money till another be taken by the Recorder. On receipt of the money from Roe he orders £70 to be given to Clarke. Henry Bradgate's looms<sup>4</sup> should be delivered to Clarke.

Ibid. No. 39. [June 20, 1592.] R. Parkins to the Mayor, from Bunny. Mr Thomas Cave sent his book<sup>5</sup> for perusal that was to pass between the town and him. There are provisos he mislikes. "And for that the gent. is a favorer of the

<sup>1</sup> End illegible.

<sup>2</sup> Mainour, stolen goods.

<sup>3</sup> See above, p. 197.

<sup>4</sup> Perhaps in the general sense of "implements."

<sup>5</sup> On musters. Cave was Sheriff.

towne of Leicester I wolde wyshe the rathr his booke to be made favourablye." Asks for sight of the late charter to be sent by Mr Derrick (Dethick) and another that he may arrange the matter.

Ibid. No. 40. [June 24, 1592.] The same to the same. On the same matter. He cannot debate the matter at large for want of time and for causes "inconvenient to be shewed here." He has shortly shewn his notes on the "margent" of the book. Mr Dethick shall cause the same to be written again because they shall not be privy to the same nor the reasons of them.

### CCCXVI. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 66. [March 17, 1592<sup>1</sup>.] *Sergiantes Gownes.* Item itt ys agreed, that the Sergiantes shall have gownes this yeere.

*Inmates.* Item it ys agreed, that the Acte for Inmates and Straungers shalbe putt in execucion<sup>2</sup> etc.

*For Straungers not to trade in this towne in the weeke daye.* Item it ys further agreed, that no person or persons dwellinge in the countrie and oute of the towne of Leicester, shall vse his or their trade within the same towne of Leicester, on the weeke dayes. Butt onlye on the markett dayes, viz. the Sayturdaye markitt and fayor dayes onlye etc. Allthoughe they have bene free of the said towne of Leycester afore etc.

*For a Cage.* Item it ys allso agreed, that there shalbee a cage made, and shalbee sett vpp, in the olde place.

[Ap. 7, 1592.] (Ale 2½d. a gallon "as well strong ale as the tunner's ale.")

(p. 67.) [July 4, 5, 1592.] *Towchinge Coles, but not concluded.* Att this Commen Hall speches vsed, towchinge the buyinge of coles for the poore, by the XXI<sup>III</sup><sup>ti</sup> and XLVIII<sup>ti</sup>. But not agreed vpon fully, and therefore not executed.

Richard Stanford, Jun. nominated to be one of the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup>.

*Towchinge a Wooll Hall.* Item it ys agreed that Mr Thomas Clarke, shall haue an estate made to him, for terme of his lief, of St Johnes<sup>3</sup> with thappa[r]tennaunces, payinge the Queenes Maiesties rente, to make a Wooll Hall thereof, and he hath promysed there to make a Wooll Hall at his owne charges, and will leave the same to the vse of the Corporacion etc.

*Ex parte Archer, not fully concluded<sup>4</sup>.* Also it ys nowe further agreed, that all the articles sett downe for Archers cawse, the xxii<sup>th</sup> of Octobre last past, before the said Mr Maior and others, and is

<sup>1</sup> Notes of this meeting in Hall Papers II, Nos. 6, 56.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 156.

<sup>3</sup> i.e. the Hospital.

<sup>4</sup> See above, p. 262, and also Hall Papers Nos. 85, 90.

remeyninge of the fyle or roles of the said Maiors yeere, ys nowe agreed vnto of so many as weare then presente, which are market thus (10) beinge the second daies meetinge, and the same to stande accordinge to the said former order, yet the matter afterwarde putt by Archer to Mr Stanford etc.

CCCXVII. *Letter on the "clothing" scheme.*

Hall Papers II, No. 86<sup>1</sup>. [July 22, 1592.] The Mayor and Recorder to the Earl of Huntingdon. Oure h[umble] dutyes remembred to your good lordshippe, beinge verye sorrye [that your lordships] purpose for cloathing in Leicester ys so longe delayed, which procedethe by defaulte [of] those that assumed to enter bondes, accordinge to your directyon: The bondes have beene longe readye expectinge the commynge of the parties to seale the same, which hitherto have delayed the tyme, and performed nothings therein: So as wee dowbt they can gett no suertyes, yett maye it please your lordshippe (for that wee wyshe, the begynnynge of somme good thinge), to suffer the same stocke, to remayne in thandes of hym, who nowe hathe ytt, or of somme other suffycient man, as shall please your lordshippe to appoynte, which man (by your lordshippes direction) maye geve creadytt to Bradgate<sup>2</sup>, onely for some reasonable percon of wooll to begynne withall, and to be a watchman of his accions from tyme to tyme. And after the same ys made in clothe, to bee by the same mans assent putt too sale, and with the monye thereof cumynge to fullfyll and contynue your stocke, and with the reasydue [to pay] Bradgate and his workmen, vntyll suche tyme as he bee [able] to procure of himself suertyes for the same. Thus [we have] thought good (by your lordshippes favyours) to make [arrangement] to further your lordshippes money...

(v<sup>o</sup>.) ...we have agreed for some provizion for coles for the woorking poore and the true poore. Allso we have graunted to Mr Thom. Clarke for terme of his lyfe the howsse of St Jones uppon condycion he shall bylde ytt and make ytt a wooll haull and so leave yt to the corporation (etc.).

<sup>1</sup> Illegible in parts.

<sup>2</sup> The late clothier, see p. 200.

CCCXVIII. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 68. [July 28, 1592.] *For Coles for y<sup>e</sup> poore.* Fyrste whereas the right honorable Henrie, Earle of Huntingdon, hath latelie ordered and appoynted that the stocke of monye by His Honers guifte heretofore ymployed yerely in coles for the poore in Leycester, shall from henceforthe remayne for the vse of cloathing in Leicester, and for coles also, for the better relief and mayntenaunce of the poore there: And for that the Mayor and Burgesses nowe assembled are willinge all the said stocke shalbee whollie ymployed in cloathing: Haue therefore at this metinge or Commen Hall agreed that there shalbe a stocke provided only by the said Foure and Twentie and Eight and Fortye, for coles onlie for the poore in Leicester, viz. the workinge poore (which do worke for and vnder the clothier) and the true poore indeede, and to that ende haue further agreed, that the XXIII<sup>th</sup> (towards the providinge of the same stocke) shall geve and paye five shillings apiece: and the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> shall also geve and paye for and towards the same iij. s. vid. apiece<sup>1</sup>. And coles therewith (so far forthe as the same will extend) to be bought by the Chamberlyns nowe beinge, and to be solde by them in wynter after the rate of five pence the hundred to the workinge poore and true poore as aforesaid. And further itt is agreed and appoynted that those Chamberlyns which doe yerely buye the coles for the poore, shall also sell the same coles in wynter to the poore in manner and forme aforesaid, and shall yeerely make a iuste and true accompte of the same to the Mayor and Aldermen for the tyme beinge, and the gaynes thereof yeerelye increasinge or arysinge to remayne to the stocke, for the better increasement thereof for ever.

CCCXIX. *Letter on points affecting the municipal constitution.*

Portfolio of Letters, No. 41. [July 28, 1592.] From the Mayor to Mr Francis Gaudie, Justice of Assize and Gaol Delivery. Francis Byard a clerk convict, having been discharged from paying his fees, without any restraint of keeper or irons, to travel and be a keeper of other prisoners, one Brian Shiers prayed process against him. The writer granted a *capias* and he was attached, and put in custody of the bailiff of the liberty. The writ enclosed was delivered by John Brown the town gaoler requiring his release. "I refused upon counsell's advice (the Recorder was away) first because the writ is *Maiori et Aldermannis* and we are incorporate

<sup>1</sup> The lists are in Hall Papers II, No. 90.

by the name of the Maior and Burgesses and so the allowance thereof prejudicial to our corporation. Secondly for that the writt is *Idco vobis precipimus quod prefatus Thos. Biard, etc.* and indeed there is no Thos. Byarde in the gaol. Thirdly for that the baily of the liberty of the town of Leicester who hath full and whole charge of the gaol and return of process is not named in the writ. Fourthly for that neither of your lordships hands are at the writts end. Lastly because the debt is unsatisfied and if he is released the baily is chargeable therewith, and I subject to an action "of the case" at the baily's suit."

Mr Bell adds: "Mr Mayor the exceptions you take to the suit of privilege are amendable in all except the prisoners being in execution, whereon my lord will not intermeddle, and therefore the cause being true, you may do as in justice appertaineth."

### CCCXX. *Contribution of town foot-soldiers.*

Portfolio of Letters, No. 42. [July 29, 1592.] (The Sheriff to the Mayor.) After my very hartie comendacions: wheras vpon her highnes lettres lattely directed to my Lord Lewetenaunte, or his deputies of this countie of Leicester ther are to be provyded L. able fottemen armed and weponed and furnished with cottes and conduct monye as by her Maiesties said letters is apointed, to be reddye to serve her highnes in her warres beyonde the seas as direction shalbe geven from the Lordes of her Privie Cownsell: Theis be therefor to signifye to you that towerdes the said nombre of L. fottemen it is ordered and apointed that ther shalbe thre souldiers chosen, furnished and sett forthe at the charge of your town of Leicester, whereof th'one to be furnished with a corslett and a pike and ane other with a muskett and the third with a calevor<sup>1</sup>, for every of the which ther is to be provided xs. for conduct monye and xiis. for every cotte. And therfor it is requyrid by Sir George Hastings and my selfe that you will make choise of the said men, and cause them to be furnished accordinglye to be in a redynes to serve her Maiestie when they shalbe cauled for. And so bide you hartelye farewell. From Baggrave, the xxix<sup>th</sup> of Julye, 1592,

Your lovinge frend,

Tho. Cave.

You are to furnishe them with swordes and daggers, and to provyde xiis. for and towerdes his charge which shall haue the leding of them.

<sup>1</sup> See Hall Book III, p. 68, also Hall Papers II, No. 86, for the names of the three men.



CCCXXI. *The Bench slandered.*

Hall Papers II, No. 91. [July 29, 1592.] Mr George Tatam, and Mr George Noryce, two of the Aldermen of the towne of Leicester, and Mr Hynd one other, dyd, before Mr Chettell Maior, say that John Knight, tanner, said to Mr Hynde, there ys never a juste man of the benche, amongst you all. For which cawse, the said Knight was commytted to ward by the said Mr Mayor wheare he remayned vntyll he was further called.

Sondaye Iulye 30, 1592: at after evenynge prayer: a metinge of Mr Maior and certen of the Aldermen, for the cawse aforesaid, viz.:

The said John Knight called before there worsheppes, and charged with the wordes aforesaid, with wordes he hathe confessed and saythe he spake them, but spake them vnadvisedly and rashlye, and ys verye sorrye for ytt.

Also he saith, that Harrye Mole, shoemaker, came to hym to the Hall yesterdaye: and vnderstandinge the cause of his punyshement, than badd him stycke to ytt, and sayd further yf Mr Maior wold not release hym, he and a meynye men wold fetche hym oute<sup>1</sup>.

Hall Papers II, No. 93. [Aug. 18, 1592.] The sayinge of Mr William Morton. He saythe, that Mr Stanford said to hym the second daye of August last, comynge from Hathorne, that the Maior and the rest had not taken neyther of those endes that were appoynted, but had taken a third end towchinge Archer, which should not stand, and that the Maior was not a fytt man for the place, nor the man he tooke hym for, for he thought he had byn another manner of man. And that the Recorder had delte lyke a knave, and he wold tell hym of ytt, lyke a lame knave as he is, and he dowbted his fynger was in the pye, abowte Archer. And also that he wold have some of them by the heeles, and also willed hym not to tell Mr Maior of the wordes he spake by him, etc.

Dethyck.

Present at the publisshinge of the said wordes. (Mayor and eight named.)

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<sup>1</sup> There is a letter from the Earl of Huntingdon to the Mayor on these disturbances, Portfolio of Letters, No. 43. [Aug. 7, 1592.] He has received the Mayor's letter of July 25, with a note of the variance between the town and others. Archer shewed the Earl an agreement in the clerk's hand. The Earl has referred this and other matters to Mr Justice Beaumont and Mr Parkins, the Recorder. "I require your conformitye to be ordered by them."

Ibid. No. 94. [Sep. 5, 1592.] All these persons last above mentioned (see the list on p. 287) have voluntarilye deposed vppon the Holye Evangelest, that they, nor any of them, have not practysed with Tusser nor Layton in offeringe hym or them xls. to make a suplycacion to the Queenes Maiestye ageynst the commissyoners<sup>1</sup>, and that yf they or other of them wold deale therein, the partye which offred the said xls. wold procure 500 handes to ytt; which offer Tusser told Mr Bowes was made to hym, by one of the best of the XXIII<sup>ti</sup>.

Hit ys nowe agreed, by the said above last mencioned partyes, that he whatsoeuer he ys, that hath made the said offer, beinge of the said Companye, and beinge founde oute and iustlye proved ageynst hym, shall be dismissed of and from the said Companye and also disfraunchised.

#### CCCXXII. *Pctition against the Corporation.*

Hall Papers II, No. 95. [Undated.] In most humble wise complayninge showeth vnto your Maiestie your faythfull and obedient subiectes the poore commonaltie of your Maiesties towne and corporacion of Leicester, that whereas it pleased your excellent Maiestie of your especyall goodnes and favoure towards your said auntyent towne, for the reliefe of the poore there inhabitinge, and for the reedyfyinge of a number of decayed howses, and other suche lyke good vses, abought five yeres sythence, to graunt vnto your sayde corporacion the valew of seuen score poundes by the yere, part in fee farme, part by lease, whereby hereafter your Maiesties saide poore towne myght be the better maynteyned and vpholden; yet so it is, moste gracious souereigne, that contrary to your princely bounty and good meaninge herein, suche as had the cheefe dealinge for vs abought that cawse hath so handeled the matter, what by sellinge the lande so geuen by your Maiestie, what by disposinge the mony at their owne pleasures, and private contencion amongst themselves, not fwe poore people are the better for your moste gracious gift, nether the towne any whit amended, but the poore more hardly vsed and racked, for suche tenements as they hould, then ever the weare before, and the towne lykelye (in shorte tyme) to be vtterly decayed by this their dealinge, yf some spedye redresse by your Maiesties good meanes be not therefore prouided, which now moueth your Maiesties poore suppliants to make their mone vnto you, moste humbly crauinge, that so honorable a graunte, to so good an ende, maye

<sup>1</sup> No. CCCXXII.

not utterly be distinguished<sup>1</sup> by the indirecte dealings of a few priuate persons, but that your moste honorable counsel table<sup>2</sup> maye have y<sup>e</sup> examynacion of y<sup>e</sup> cause, to calle before them the cheefe dealers in this matter, to see whye your Maiesties moste gracious graunte be so abused, and to take such order therein, as shall seeme best to their wisdoms: and your Maiesties poore suppliants shall for ever pray to God for your blessed, longe and prosperous raigne over them.

[Sep. 5, 1592.] The matter and contentes within wrytten, wee whose names are hereunder wrytten, doe thincke in our own conciences, to bee most vntreue.

Raffe Chettell, Maior,  
Robert Parkyns,  
James Clarke,  
George Tatam,  
Will<sup>m</sup>. Morton,

Thomas Clark,  
R. Heyricke,  
Thomas Ellys,  
Will<sup>m</sup>. Ludlam,  
Will<sup>m</sup>. Bowes.

### CCCXXIII. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1591—2.] (Rents of assize and at will £17. 7s. 2d. Rents in other places 4s. 4d. Rents of the Grange £70. 13s. 4d. Lands bought of Mr Wightman £1. 6s. 8d. St John's and Leonard's rents (full list), with Tatham's lease and Hawkes' and Bates' lease, Rents increased, Chapman's gild £9. 5s. 0d....Other receipts (free school annuities, balance of chamberlains' account, freedoms by the year, horse-toll, trade ordinals (shoemakers, glovers, bakers, tailors, butchers, weavers), fines for breaking the assize of candle, receipt towards the charges of the scouring of the Cowhay dyke, and defaults at common halls), £32. 12s. 7½d. Total £194. 3s. 3½d.)

*Payments...*Rents decayed...rent of sheep pens...Grange rents and fees, other rents and fees for some part of the lands and tenements wee hold of H. M. in fee farm...to Ric. Archer due to his ballywycke for a chief rente...Arthur Tatam due to his ballywycke...baylyff of Mertyn Colledge in Oxford due for a chief rent...

*Gyftes...*messenger that brought the Queenes Majesties proclamations Oct. 14, that no corne nor other victuall nor any ordynance nor furnytur by shippinge be carryed into any of the Kinge of Spaynes countryes...Earle of Shrosburye...George Warde beareward...Lord

<sup>1</sup> for "extinguished."

<sup>2</sup> *i.e.* of the Duchy.

Shadowes<sup>1</sup> players more (etc.) 6s. 8d....proclamacions agaynste semynarye priests and Jesuits...Earle of Wosters players in rewarde for that they did not playe 10s....wyne and owsters sent to Mr Thomas Cave to Horspole graunge 5s....Earle of Huntingdon att his goinge to York...att his retorne from Yorke he than lyinge att the Abbye...Doctor Whitakers preacher...Doctor Challener preacher... 10 June geven to the lord Dakers vice president of Yarke his players who did not playe 5s....Queenes Majesties playors more than was gaythered 40s....Earle of Shresburye...proclamacions for the adjorment of part of Michaelmas terme...

Other payments towching the charges abowte the settinge fourthe of three soldyars footmen whiche emongest others for the countye of Leicester were sent into Fraunce etc. in Aug. 1592<sup>2</sup>...all furnyshed out of the store howsse...their conducte monye beinge 10s. apece...2*li.* of gunpowther for them 2s. 10*d.*...there tablinge for towe dayes 4s.... there captyn or conductor to London 6s. 8*d.*...the Lieftenantes drummers 4s....

*Reparacions*...scowringe of the Cowe hey ditche...

*Totall* £210. 7s. 2½*d.*

#### CCCXXIV. *Portmoot Roll.*

Box 8, No. 188. [Oct. 9, 1592—Sep. 1593.] A suit of the wardens of the occupations of the shoemakers or company of the shoemakers, in a plea of debt, is begun, but notes of the cases are merely fragmentary and of no value.

#### CCCXXV. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 75. [Oct. 12, 1592.] The deputy clerk of the market for Leicestershire sent his precept to the Mayor who did not shew him any of the standards as required by the precept, but sent 10s. for his fee as formerly accustomed.

(p. 77.) Surveyors and leasers of town land chosen; from the Four and Twenty, the Mayor and four others, from the Eight and Forty, the chamberlains and five others.

(p. 78.) [Nov. 24, 1592.] *Graunge.* Also it ys agreed that the tenauntes of the Graunge shalbee dismissed agaynst Mychaellmas next, and the towne to place other tenauntes, for the best proffitt and comoditye for the towne etc.

*Straungers.* Item it ys agreed that all Straungers inhabytinge in this towne not able to mayntey(n) themselves, shalbee sent oute of the towne agayne, etc.

<sup>1</sup> Chandos.

<sup>2</sup> See above, p. 284.

*Mr Holte.* Item itt ys agreed that Mr Maior shall doe his endeavor to buye Mr Holtes lease, and to buy it yf hee can, so that the Companies paye nothinge therevnto.

CCCXXVI. *Letters on town business and election of M.P.s.*

Portfolio of Letters, No. 44. [Oct. 10, 1592.] R. Parkins to the Mayor: from Bunny. He greets the Mayor and "his bedfellow my cosen." He regrets missing the messenger with summons to the sessions, and will come if he can.

Ibid. No. 45. [Nov. 26, 1592.] (Sir E. Hastings<sup>1</sup> to the Mayor.) I woulde willinglie be resolved wheather you have dealt with your towne touchinge the marciaments of the laste Lect. If they will not compound for the same I muste proceede presentlie acordinge to order... I would knowe whether they will you to deale with me for the whole benifitt of y<sup>at</sup> courte duringe the tyme of my lease or for any other comoditie graunted within the same that maye happen within your towne. And in haste I leave you.

Ibid. No. 46, and Hall Papers II, No. 157, and Hall Book III, p. 78. [Jan. 8, 1593.] Sir Thomas Heneage (Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster) from Hampton Court to the Mayor, asking that the choice of burgesses for parliament may be left to him as heretofore to his predecessors. The borough will be free of cost and its causes well cared for. (In full in Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 294<sup>2</sup>.)

Hall Papers II, No. 157. [Jan. 8, 1593.] Unsigned letter (from the Mayor) to Sir T. Heneage announcing his intention to summon a common hall.

Hall Papers II, No. 163. [Jan. 26, 1593.] A letter from the Mayor to Sir T. Heneage, in which he denies the claim of the Chancellors to elect, though Sir R. Sadler some eight years back was allowed to nominate one member<sup>3</sup>; he further makes known that an election has been made. (See below.) In full in Thompson's *Leicester*, pp. 294-5.

CCCXXVII. *Minutes of a Common Hall.*

Hall Book III, p. 79. [Jan. 24, 1593.] Att this meetinge or Common Hall, the precept from the Highe Sheryffe of the Countye of Leycester, for the eleccion of the Burgesses of the Parliament, was openlye redd<sup>4</sup>. And a lettre sent from the Chauncellor of the

<sup>1</sup> Steward of the Honour. These negociations ended in the lease to the town of the borough court's profits.

<sup>2</sup> But without the P.S.: "I praye your answeare and resolution by this bearer, whom of purpose I doe sende vnto you, for that I woulde be furnyshed of meete men to serve the place, withoute your charge. To my verie lovinge frendes, the Maior, Baylyfes, Burgesses and inhabitantes of the towne of Leycester."

<sup>3</sup> See above, p. 211 (1584).

<sup>4</sup> It is given in Hall Book III, p. 79, and Hall Papers II, No. 150, dated Jan. 22, 1593.

Duchie, for the nominacion of our Burgesses was also readd. And also one other letter from Mr Tamworth, and also Mr Brockas made suite to be one of our Burgesses.

Memorandum it is ordered & agreed by the most parte nowe assembled that nether Mr Tamworth nor Mr Brockas shalbe elected burgesses for this towne of Leicester of this parliament. And towching the Chauncellor of the Duchie his lettre it is by some fyve or sixe of thelders agreed that he shall have the nominacion of one of our burgesses. But by the mooste and greatest parte, with the consent of Mr Maior, agreed to haue no straunger or straungers to be theire burgesses at this tyme. And thereupon was chosen by Mr Stanford maior & the most parte of the said two Companyes especiall of the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> and by hymself to bee the burgesses for this towne of Leicester of this next parliament:—Mr John Stanford Maior who will beare his owne charges: Mr James Clarcke who is to have his charges<sup>1</sup>.

### CCCXXVIII. *Commission to enquire into the disposal of the fee-farm lands.*

Portfolio of Letters, No. 47. [March 20, 1593.] Order from the Council to Mr Francis Beaumont, Justice of Common Pleas, John Stanford, Mayor, the Recorder, and James Clarke, or any three of them (of whom the Justice and Recorder to be two) to enquire and examine concerning the taking of lands to private uses<sup>2</sup> which were granted by the Queen in fee farm to the use of the corporation to support a preacher, a clothier and to maintain the town. The commissioners are to secure restitution.

Signed: Jo. Cant. Jo. Puckering. W. Burghley. Essex. C. Howard. T. Buckhurst. Ro. Cecyll.

(Printed in full in Dasent, *Acts of the Privy Council* 1592-3, pp. 131-2.)

### CCCXXIX. *Minutes of a Common Hall.*

Hall Papers II, No. 165. [Ap. 6, 1593.] The above letter was shown, and the Earl of Huntingdon's letter touching the clothier (not extant) was read.

Hall Book III, p. 80. *Graunge*. Memorandum that the Close in the Frithe neire the Forreste of Leicester in the occupacion of Henrye Cater, and late of Thomas Sommerfild and the said Cater, ys nowe lett to the tennantes of the Graunge for xxi<sup>th</sup> yeeres, for

<sup>1</sup> In Hall Papers II, No. 162, is a list of those who gave their "voices" for the Mayor and J. Clark.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 286.

xxli. fyne and xli. a yere rente. The fyne to be paide when they shall enter. And theire ys geven to Mr Mayor in earnest by Mr Mabbes, iiiid.

*Disclosinge of seycrertes at Common Halls.* Also it is agreed that whatsoever he bee that dothe disclose anye speeches, seicrertes or matters oute of this Common Hall, or att any Common Hauill hereafter, to any person or persons whatsoever, shall forfitt and paye to thuse of the towne fyve poundes of currant monye.

Ibid. [July 6, 1593.] At this tyme nothings agreed upon worth recordinge<sup>1</sup>.

CCCXXX. *Searchers of gambling places.*

Hall Papers II, No. 191. [Sep. 18, 1593.] Memorandum that the daye and yere afore said, dyd come before the said Mr Mayor, Wm Fynsted and George Barnardeston, deputies to Mr Raphe Bowes Esquier one of her Maiesties gentlemen pensyoners, to enter into any ship, vessell, bottom, bote, howse, shoppe, seller, sellor<sup>2</sup>, warehouse or any place or places whatsoever within this realme, for, towching, and concerninge playinge cardes. Dated (July 26, 1593).

Memorandum there was with them one John Cope, one of the messengers of her Maiesties Chamber, hathe said that the partyes which hathe heretofore gone with the lyke aucthorytye for playinge cardes were counterfittes, and had no aucthoritye to deale therein, and also saythe that the blanck obligacion in print shoed forthe by Mr Eyrycke (which he saythe was left with hym to seale by the aforesaid persons) ys a counterfytt bond or blanck. The which blancke the said John Cope hathe taken with hym, to shoe Mr Bowes, etc.

CCCXXXI. *Orders for dealing with the plague.*

Portfolio of Letters, No. 48. [Sep. 20, 1593.] Letter from the Justices of the county to the constables of the hundred of East Goscote urging that if the governors of the town restrain the movements of inhabitants, as desired, the town will be impoverished and a charitable collection should be made weekly to relieve the poor. Ministers and curates should persuade their parishioners to contribute. (In full in Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 296<sup>3</sup>.)

<sup>1</sup> Hall Papers II, No. 183 [June 18, 1593], contains a note that "in full Portemot" T. Chetell was made a Mayor's brother and set on the Bench.

<sup>2</sup> seller, sellor=cellar and soler, underground and upper room.

<sup>3</sup> The P.S. is omitted: "Our meaninge is that the pettye constables and churchwardens shall collecte this benevolence in every of their charges & delyver the same to your hands to be paide by yow as yow shalbe directed by us or anye other H.M.'s Justices."

Portfolio of Letters, No. 49. [Sep. 20, 1593.] The same to the Mayor of Leicester. Our verie hartie comendations to you and to your brethren with the lyke desyer of your well doinge and contente in this your distressed estate, and wishinge your due care of the same, ytt beinge so dangerous to the whole contrye, wherof wee doubt nott; and in thatt respect wee have this daye taken order for the releife of the poore of your towne by the supporte of the contrey: Because wee thinke ytt verye necessarye and conveynient thatt none of the contrye shoulde repeyre to you, nether thatt anye of your towne shoulde go abroade into the contrey: And therfore wee hartelie praye you thatt the same order maye be taken by you for your sayed towne and thatt you woulde surcease for some tyme to holde anye markett or assemblyes for thatt wynter beinge att hand. Wee hope the same maye, yf ytt please God, occasion some staye of suche sicknes, which wee hartelie praye God to graunt who kepe you. From Bosworthe this xx<sup>th</sup> of September 1593.

Your loving frendes: George Hastings. Ed. Hastings. Henry Turvyle. Humphrey Purefey.

### CCCXXXII. *Minutes of a Common Hall.*

Hall Book III, p. 84. [Sep. 21, 1593.] (*Archer.*) Itt ys nowe agreed that Mr Maior shall seale & delyver as the acte & dede of the Maior and burgesses of the towne of Leicester one obligacion of 500*li.* to stand to thaward of certen persons to Archer (etc.).

*For the visited people.* Also agreed that y<sup>e</sup> XXIII<sup>th</sup> shall paye wekelye towards the charges of the vizited iis. a yere and the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> xiid. a peece. And now to begyn for the weeke paste & so forwards<sup>1</sup>.

### CCCXXXIII. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1592—3.] *Reccipts...Rcnts* of assice...Rent increased...Chapmans gild...Other reccipts...glovers...taylors...weyvors...shoomakers...upon their ordynall...

*Totall somme* £176. 12s. 10½*d.*

*Fynes for leases...* Payments oute of the aforesaid...by the consent of the commyssoners...

<sup>1</sup> Hall Book III, p. 89. [Oct. 19, 1593.] The same continued for 3 weeks longer, and the commoners to be taxed according to their "habillities."



*Payementes...Decayes...* Graunge Rents & fees...chief rents paid out...*Rewards...* Geo. Warde beareward...the lorde Admoralls players more (etc.) 8s....proclamacions for the adiorneyment of Michaelmas terme to Harteford...letters from the Chauncellor of the Duchie...for the nominacion of the burgesses of the parliament...Thomas Cave then highe sheriffe...lorde Mountague his playars 5s....Earle of Penbrucke his players more (etc.) 14s....20 June Queenes Majesties playors more (etc.) 24s....Lord Darsye his playars 10s....Earle of Wosters playors 20s....Sir John Harryngton & his ladye by Mystrys Mayres...

*Reparacions...* Coweheye abowte the brigge...glasse wyndowes at the hall...lattice wyndowes...yate for the Cowe pasture...killinge of moulds<sup>1</sup> in the Cowe hey...a greate horsse locke<sup>2</sup> for the hall...

*Fees etc...* the whippinge of a lame crippe & of his hore & her husbond theire bawde & for a carte twice abowte the towne...Mr James Clarke one of the Burgesses of the Parliament for his charges during the tyme thereof etc. £6. 6s. 0d....for the statutes or booke of the Actes of parliament of anno 35 Eliz....

*Totall* £222. 13s. 2½d....chamber...indebted £47. 0s. 4d.

#### CCCXXXIV. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 89. [Nov. 9, 1593.] *Freemen contynewinge owte of th Towne.* First it is agreed that everie freeman of this towne of Leycestre, that doth contynewe oute of the said towne to vse their trades or occupacions els wheare, and doe not retorne whom nightlye to their dwellinge howses in Leicestre, shall paye wekelye double in everye payment to the other inhabitantes whiche doe keepe the towne to all charges & paymentes, watche & warde etc. And yf they do not retorne whom agen & contynue in the towne as an inhabitant yerof ought to doe, before the concepcion of our Ladye next, shall paye for everye weeke that they or any of them shall contynue oute afterwarde xls. a weeke to the use of the vizited and poore people, etc.

*Towching the East Gate.* (Tenant's lease continued.) "He shall not any more use the same to ley kyddes<sup>3</sup> or fuell therein."

*Ibid.* p. 90. [Nov. 23, 1593.] Two of the 24 and two of the 48 named "to observe the abuse in ale houses as well by night as by day," as they shall be appointed by Mr Mayor.

<sup>1</sup> moles.

<sup>2</sup> padlock.

<sup>3</sup> faggots.

CCCXXXV. *Records of the Plague.*

Hall Papers II, No. 258. [Oct. 6, 1593.] Letter certifying that John Stynton's wife has not been dwelling near the infected places in Leicester. Her husband is travelling to gather money for a poor-house at Waltham Cross.

Ibid. No. 257. [Oct. 18, 1593.] (Letter from the Mayor to the Justices of the county. Opening imperfect.) ...besides which vizited and suspected the number of our other poore which yet (God be thancked) stand cleyre beinge fyve or sixe hundreth at y<sup>e</sup> least, which are [wanting] relief, or goinge forthe into the cuntrye, doe nowe crye oute [and] say by reason thereof they have sold and gaged all that they have to mayntayne themselves [& will] either be forced to lyve vpon almes or [starve] in their howses, which they say they will not doe, but threate they will go abroade and [lose] their lyves before. The premisses considered & for the better relyeving of them, & the said vizited & suspected persons, oure humble suyte and petition to your worshippe ys as it may stand with your good favours, that somme reasonable weekly contrybucion maye bee collected towardes the relyvinge of our said vizited & poore people: Wherein your worshippe shall not onely doe a verye good & charitable deede, but bynde vs, our wholl inhabitantes to be thankfull for the same & also wee all the wayes that wee can or maye, will so governe & order the said vizited & poore people as we trust shall be to your good lykinges & for the good of our towne. And as consernynge our markettes, wee hope in God to have such care for the orderinge thereof & government of our said vizited & poore people, as shall no waye bee hurtfull or daungerus to the same, or any the resorters or commoners therin it. Thus restinge in your worshippes good favours, in this our humble suit, wee humbly take our leaves, commendinge the same to the blessed tuicion of the most highest. Leycester: this present xviii<sup>th</sup> of October, 1593.

Your worshippes to commande (unsigned).

To the right worshipfull Sir George Hastings, knight, and the rest of her Maiesties Justices of Peace, within the County of Leicester. Att Bosworth.

Hall Papers II, No. 255. [Oct. 29, 1593.] In similar terms, the Mayor to Mr Cave the High Sheriff.

Ibid. No. 259. [Nov. 4, 1593.] List of houses containing dead and visited. "And there ys dyvers howses hedged in and kept in that have mixt amongst the vizited people which are all releved daylye of the townes charges and so must be untill wee have further tryall of them." (The list is in Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 298.)

Ibid. No. 260. Drafts of letters asking for weekly contributions from country gentry.

Ibid. No. 261. Letter giving the number of dead 35, houses visited 21, and describing the care taken to watch the suspected houses night and day (unaddressed)

Ibid. No. 262. Letter urging the recipient to be "a mean" to Sir Geo. Hastings and other justices to raise a weekly contribution (unaddressed).

Ibid. Nos. 256, 263—6. Several drafts of letters to "the only commander of the county, next under the good Earl<sup>1</sup>."

Ibid. No. 267. [Nov. 28, 1593.] The Mayor to Sir Thos. Skeffington and William Cave. The number of dead is 107, and all the visited houses except 3 are kept in meat, drink, fire, candle, water, soap, and provided with keepers.

Ibid. No. 268. [Dec. 4, 1593.] The same to Sir Thos. Skeffington that of the 3 houses self-maintained, Mr Nix, Mr Freake, and R. Taylor, the last is heavily in debt. The inhabitants have paid £5 weekly for the past ten weeks and 20 watchmen were on duty. Poverty is increasing.

Hall Papers II, No. 271. [Dec. 17, 1593.] (Letter (? to the Justices) imperfect at the beginning.) I am still bold to put you and the rest of [the other] gentlemen in remembrance of the nowmber of poore in our towne, which I kepe in and not willing to suffer any of them to go into the country to beg, for feayre of infecting the same, nether doe I suffer them to goe to the Inzes<sup>2</sup> as heretofore they have doone, hoping still and promysing them that suche wikely relefe will goe out of the countre as they shalbe all releived in theare howses. The which as yet doethe not coom in nothing lyke to my lord his direction, for on Satterday last even in Ins only owt of one devyzyon of Gartre hundrethe, iiii. for one moonethe past and no moore owt of anny other hundrithe, which [I pray] if I may reaceave such hope in God to releve all the sayd poore and kepe them in, y<sup>at</sup> greater daunger doe not ensue, for want whereof I shalbe forced to suffer them to go at lyberty, which I woold be very vnwilling to doe, being so carfull as hitherto I have bene in doinge my dewty to y<sup>e</sup> vtmost of my power, to avoyd the danger of infection and after myscheves which I doe feare, in them being so great a number and many of them dryven to greate extremytye. Thus humbly takeinge my leave I commytt your worship to the tuytion of thallmighty: Leicester this xvii<sup>th</sup> of December, 93.

Your worshippes to command

R. Herrycke, Mayor.

Ibid. No. 269. The Mayor to Sir Henry Turvile and Mr Humphrey Purefey: thanks for 30s. part of the collection from Sparkenhoe hundred. The sickness increases and the collection is insufficient. The Mayor (R. Herrick) says that he has borrowed money on his own credit and owes £5.

Ibid. No. 270. [Dec. 13, 1593.] The Mayor to the Earl of Huntingdon. He has appointed a poor man to go through the country with a begging-box.

<sup>1</sup> *i.e.* ? the sheriff under the Earl of Huntingdon who was lord lieutenant.      <sup>2</sup> ? inns.

Ibid. No. 271. [Dec. 17, 1593.] Similarly to Sir G. Hastings.

Ibid. No. 272. List of watchmen appointed for a week's service.

Ibid. No. 273. [Jan. 6, 1594.] Similarly to Sir F. Hastings. The writer has had only 46s.

Ibid. No. 275. [Jan. 1594.] (Draft petition to the Justices.) The humble suite and requests (of) the towne of Leicester, in respect of the vizited and poore in Leycester ys, that it wolde please the right worshipfull Sir George Hastings, Knight, and Sir Edward Hastings, Knight, and the rest of the Justices, that the arrerages of my Lord Lieftenauntes<sup>1</sup> order in that behalf, the tyme of the order taken vppon his honours lettres vntill the last of Februarye, maye bee collected and gaythered vppe.

The humble suite and request of the Mayor and Aldermen of the towne of Leicester ys, in respecte of the kepinge in of the vizited and poore in Leicester, vntill Marche be past, ys (*sic*) that it wold please the right worshipfull Sir George Hastings, Knight, and Sir Edward Hastings, Knight, and the rest of the Justices, that the arrerages accordinge to my Lord Lyeftenauntes order in that behalf, from the tyme appoynted for the collectyon thereof, vntill the last of instant Januarye, maye bee by your worshippes good meanes and appoyntment, collected and gaythered vppe for the said vse. And further that the said order maye have contynuanee vntill the last of Februarye next, whereby there will bee suche order taken for (unfinished).

#### CCCXXXVI. *Correspondence on Dr Chippingdale's<sup>2</sup> Mill Suit.*

Hall Papers II, No. 274. [Dec. 1593.] Oure humble dutyes (right honorable) remembred, [may it please you to remember] where at your lordship's laste beinge att Leycester, it was made by [an agree-ment] that Mr Walter Hastings and Mr Thomas Cave sholde have the [hearing] and determynynge of the contrauersy dependinge in the duchie courte betwixt one doctor Stward, doctor Chipingdale, and the inhabytantes of the towne of Leycester towchinge there grynedinge of malte and multer<sup>3</sup> corne at the Castle mylne, at whiche tyme the said Doctor Chippingdale assented there vnto, and withall made choyce of Mr Walter Hastings for the parte of the said Doctor Stward and hymself: Sithence which tyme, the said Dr Chippingdale never made request vnto the said gentlemen, for any meetinge towchinge the same, butt contrarie to your lordship's said order, and his promyse than made to your lordship, hathe contynually sythence proceded

<sup>1</sup> The Earl of Huntingdon.

<sup>2</sup> See above, p. 197.

<sup>3</sup> multure, corn subtracted in payment for milling.

in lawe in the said courte, agaynst the said inhabitantes, and hathe by countenance of Mr Brograve the attorney of the same courte (whoe marryed the syster of the said Doctor Stward) procured a daye of heyringe this next Tuesday which tyme wee, (for the cause aforesaid,) and the rather for that the said Mr Brograve is lenyng in favorable maner to them in the said accion, and his man doeth follow the suyte for and in the behalf of the said Doctor Stward and Doctor Chippingdale, greatly to dowbte wee shall have no (end of page torn) maye please youe to direct the said Chauncellor, that the rather it wolde please hym [to give] vs indifferent heyringe, accordinge to justice, and the [truth thereof] and that (at your honours request) the said Mr Chauncellor wold vouchsafe the heyringe of the cause. Then wee dowbt not of successe and indifferencye in the cawse, allwayes assuring our selves in your honours good favour, [we] desire with our contynuall praier the Almightye longe to contynewe your honorable state and so wee humblye take our leaves. Frome the poore distressed towne of Leycester this (blank) daye of December, 93.

Your honors humblye allwaies bounden.

To the Earl of Huntingdon.

Hall Papers II, No. 276. [Feb. 26, 1594.] Letter from the Mayor to the Earl of Huntingdon, referring to the town's agreement with Dr Chippingdale. As touching the Earl's request on W. Worship's behalf, before the receipt of the Earl's letters the moiety of the Grange was let. The Justices do little for the relief of the poor except what Sir Ed. Hastings does in getting in the arrears due, and "yet our charges continueth great and some new houses lately enfected to the South end of the town, whereby I shall hardly bring the Judges to sit at the Castle but forced to lodge them at Mr Stanford's house and to have them sit at the Town hall." He refers to certain payments on the Earl's behalf.

Ibid. No. 277. To Sir Ed. Hastings on the plague in similar terms. The visited are still kept in compulsorily.

### CCCXXXVII. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 91. [Jan. 11, 1594.] (The town to reedify the North Mills.)

Agreed that the suit touching the Castle Mills shall be ended without suit in law if it may be.

<sup>1</sup>*Monye to be taken vpppe.* Item it is agreed that Mr Mayor shall take vppe a hundred ponde at interest, for the reydeemyng of the Northe Mylnes and the Corporacion under their Common Seale to be bounde for the payment thereof. And the interest to be payed by

<sup>1</sup> Also in Hall Papers II, No. 282.

the xxiiii<sup>ti</sup> and the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup>, porcion and porcion [a]like after the rate of iis. and xii<sup>d</sup>. etc.

<sup>1</sup> *Wynde Mylne*. Item it is agreed that Mr Maior shall buye the Wynde Mylne in the Sowthe Felde of Leicester (the price whereof ys xx<sup>li</sup>.) and Mr Maior to take order for the payment thereof, in the behalf of the Towne, and vppon the townes bonde, etc.

Hall Papers II, No. 282. [Jan. 11, 1594.] Agreed that Mr Mayor shall procure a *constant*<sup>2</sup> to be suyd that all the Queens tenants of our fee farm paye there rent to the towne and the towne to paye itt to the Queens majesty or her offycers.

Agreed that Mr Mayor shall do his best endeavor by suyt to be [made] to y<sup>e</sup> lord treasurer, lord chief baron etc. this terme for abatement of our xv<sup>th</sup> in view of the pore estate of this towne by reason of the sicknes etc.

If the suit with D<sup>r</sup>. Chippendale by Geo. Tatham and others of the town touching the North Mills be not ended now by compromise, the town to bear all charges and pay £10 to Tatham for his.

Hall Book III, p. 91. [March 8, 1594.] First the accompte of Thomas Manbye and Richarde Stanford, Chamberlyns to Mr John Stanford late Maior, was nowe oppenlie readde, yett at this tyme not allowed, butt referred over to be examyned further, att the next Common Hall, etc.

[*Touching a watch to be kept for the Visited People.*] Item it is agreed that duringe the tyme of the assises there shalbee stronge watche kept bothe night and daie of sufficient men, and the Comoners as well as the xxiiii<sup>ti</sup> and XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> to be taxed ageyn for and towardes the charges of the vizited and poore people, for the said tyme, and euerye Alderman to be eadinge and assistinge of the Constables, etc.

(p. 92.) [March 15, 1594.] *IIII Gates*. Item it is ordered and agreed that from henceforthe there shalbe no dekeyes of the Foure Gates allowed vnto the Chamberlyns. But the Chamberlyns to lett them to somme tenauntes as well as they can, and to be charged with the rent in theire accompt, which thei shall lett the same for, etc.

*Meadowe, Hunter*. Item it is agreed to redeme the meadowe in Mr Hunters occupacion and to paye him his monye which is iii<sup>xx</sup><sup>li</sup>. vppon our Ladye Daye next, viz. xxv<sup>o</sup> die Marcii proximo futuro.

*Tatam, Clarke*. Item it is agreed that Mr Maior shall make an ende of the matter for the land etc. betwixt the towne and Mr George

<sup>1</sup> Also in Hall Papers II, No. 282.

<sup>2</sup> *i.e.* Constat, see below pp. 300—1.

Tatam and Mr Thomas Clarke, of there bargayne, as well as he can, for the townes behooffe.

*Tenauntes.* Item it is further agreed, that from hence forthe euerye of the tenauntes shall have the firste offer, and to haue the landes he holdith before anye other, doinge as an other will, etc.

[Ap. 28, 1594.] Sondaie att after Evenynge Prayor. A metinge of divers of the XXIII<sup>ti</sup>.

*Post Horscs*<sup>1</sup>. Item it ys nowe agreed to keepe iii<sup>or</sup> poste horssees, and to be kepte by two honest and sufficient persons by the appoyntment of Mr Maior, and they to haue for euerye horsse xxvi<sup>s</sup>. viii<sup>d</sup>. and to keepe sufficient and able horssees. The payment to be as followeth, viz. the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> xvi<sup>d</sup>. apeece, and the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> viii<sup>d</sup>. apeece. And the rest to be levied of the Commoners, etc.

*Schoole*<sup>1</sup>. Item the Earle of Huntingdons lettre, sent to Mr Maior, towchinge the remoavinge of Thomas Jesson the head vssher of the schoole from the schoole was openly readd, and agreed vpon to haue hym tried before by some lerned man, for his sufficiency before he bee removed, etc.

*Meadowe, Furner*<sup>1</sup>. Item the meadowe before mencioned, lett to one Mr Simion Furner of London for xvi<sup>th</sup> yeeres from the Annunciacion last past, his fyne for the same lx*li*. no rent reserved, and the lease was nowe oppenlye readde.

(p. 93.) *Bayliffe and Sergiantes*<sup>2</sup>. Item speeches nowe vsed betwixt the Maior and his bretherne, and John Willne the Baylliffe of the towne of Leicester, towchinge the Sergiantes for their attendance vppon the Maior and his successors. Hitt is nowe agreed betwixt Mr Maior and his bretherne and the said Baylliffe, that from hence forthe the Foure Sergiantes shall attend on the Maior of the towne of Leicester for the tyme beinge, as heretofore of aunncient and olde tyme hath bene vsed and accustomed. And they to haue suche fees and allowance as hath bene vsed and allowed vnto them.

(p. 92.) [May 1, 1594.] *Survey*<sup>3</sup>. The Auditors to survey the town land and fee farm land, two days a week, on pain of 3*s*. 4*d*. each.

*Court.* Act for coming to court to be executed.

*Furner.* Lease confirmed.

*Sir Edward Hastings Knight.* Item the bargayne to be made with Sir Edward Hastings Knight for the fines, amerciaments and

<sup>1</sup> Also in Hall Papers II, No. 217.

<sup>2</sup> And in Hall Papers II, No. 232.

<sup>3</sup> And in Hall Papers II, No. 218.

felons goods, weyves, straves, and also for his patent of the Stuardshippe: the agreement yerof ys referred to Mr Maior for the monye or yerelie rent hee shall have for the same.

*Markham and Fr. Archer.* Item towching Markham and Fr. Archer for the buinge of theire titles etc. itt ys referred to Master Maior for the agreeinge with them.

[June 23, 1594.] Sondaie att after Eveninge prayer a metinge of divers of the XXIII<sup>th</sup> and XLVIII<sup>th</sup> towching the Bayllif and his Sergiants.

### CCCXXXVIII. *Trade Ordinals.*

Hall Papers II, No. 280. [Undated.] Letter to the Justices, referring to the Ordinals of trades and the statute requiring that they must not be against the common profit of the people and must be approved by the Chanceller, Treasurer or Chief Justices of either Bench, or before both the Justices of Assize. The country towns of Leicestershire are plenished full of craftsmen and men of trades which do weekly frequent our markets and there do retail their wares, whereby they do not only take the benefit of our market from the poor artizans and craftsmen of our town but afterwards pack up and make their return home to their dwellings without bearing any manner of charges towards the benefit of our town as other artisans (artientes) therein do. The inhabitants have therefore grown very poor. It is hoped that the Justices will take order for reform.

Ibid. No. 281. List of sums due on the ordinals of bakers, shoemakers, weavers, tailors, glovers, shearmen: total £7. 12s. 10d.

Ibid. No. 287. [No date.] Brewer's Ordinal allowed. Mr Will. Norice appointed master, and Tho. Clark and Mr Ellice wardens. It is agreed upon by full voice and consent and none spake against it. Mr Mayor and the Justices to appoint two honest men to be ale tasters in every ward. The Hall divided on the assize of ale, 25 for new ale at 4d. a gallon, 23 for 3d.

### CCCXXXIX. *Difficulty in the collection of Fee-farm rents.*

Box 2 A, No. 780. [June 20, 1594.] <sup>1</sup>Exemplification and inspeximus of a certain decree in the treasury (camera) of the Duchy of Lancaster at Westminster, dated June 15, 1594, for the Mayor and burgesses of Leicester. Whereas the Queen by letters patent in Feb. 31 Eliz. granted part of the lands and tenements in Leicester being parcel of the Duchy in fee farm for the yearly rent of £137. 13s. 0<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d., with a *nomine pene* of £10 if the rent be behind for 40 days, for 80 days £20, for 6 months another £20, and so till the rent be paid: the lands were let to several persons, with the clause in the leases that if the rent be behind for 40 days and not paid to the General Receiver, the lease should be void. By reason of which several provisoes, the tenants refuse to pay their rents to the Mayor and burgesses. Whereupon in the term of Easter last, at the motion of

<sup>1</sup> Part in Latin, part in English.



Mr Philip Gerard on behalf of the Mayor and burgesses, it was ordered that the tenants should pay their rents to the Mayor and burgesses and if not paid in the second return of this present term shew good cause to the contrary and further as the record sets forth<sup>1</sup>. Since that time, in spite of notice received, the tenants shew no cause why they should not pay. As the Mayor and burgesses are bound to pay the fee farm to H.M. and under these heavy penalties, and as the Duchy Court is persuaded that the lessees ought to pay their rents to the Mayor and burgesses, and as H.M.'s receiver prefers to be paid in one sum by the Mayor and burgesses rather than by the payments of the undertenants, it is ordered by the Chancellor and Council of the Court that the lessees must pay to the Mayor and burgesses at the times fixed in their leases, and that then the Mayor and burgesses shall not take advantage of the provisoes for non-payment. If the lessees still refuse, the Mayor and burgesses may take their remedy. (Duchy seal, imperfect.)

### CCCXL. *Minutes of a Common Hall.*

Hall Book III, p. 64. [Aug. 30, 1594.] <sup>2</sup>*A petition to the Earl of Huntingdon from the Tradesmen of Mount Sorell etc. considered vpon.* Firste a petition oppenlie readd, which by the tradesmen of Mount Sorell and other places in the countrie was latelye exhibited to the Earle of Huntingdon, and by his honor delyvered to our said Recorder, to be nowe openly readd and considered vpon, together with an answer thereof.

*An Answer thereto made by the Recorder.* Also there was then oppenlie readde, an answeere thereof made by our said Recorder<sup>3</sup> for the said Earle, conteyninge 37 articles, to greate effecte, and learnedly sett oute etc. whie they sholde not trafique in Leicester, excepte they wold dwell and inhabite theire, etc.

*Orders made by the Judges for restraint of Artizans and Tradesmen.* Also att this present was oppenlie readd, the orders and constitucions made and graunted by the Justices of Assises and generall Gaole Delyverye for the circuitt of the towne and countie of Leicester, for the restraynte of artisantes and tradesmen of the countrie from retaylinge of their wares in Leicester, except they will come and dwell in Leicester and become free burgesses thereof.

*Confirmed at this Hall according to the Statute of Henry VII.* The which ordynaunces are nowe att this Common Hall confirmed and allowed accordinge to the tenor thereof, and accordinge to the Statute made in the xix<sup>th</sup> yeere of the raigne of Kinge Henrie the VII<sup>th</sup>. As

<sup>1</sup> In Box 4 A, No. 11 [May 11, 1594], is a statement of the tenants' refusal to pay except to the Receiver, and a promise that if they pay to the Mayor and burgesses, no advantage shall be taken of the above penalties for arrears.

<sup>2</sup> The minutes are also in Hall Papers II, No. 245.

<sup>3</sup> MS. *Recorded.*

<sup>4</sup> 19 H. 7, cap. 7, on the making of statutes by bodies corporate.

much as in the said Maior and Burgesses is, and by the Statute aforesaid they maie. And the Common Seale to bee thereunto appendantt.

(p. 95.) And further it is agreed that y<sup>e</sup> said ordynaunces shalbe presentlye hereafter putt in execucion ageynst all suche as doe retayle their wares in Leicester. And warnynge to be geven vnto them date fixed (etc.) and non after that daye beeing farreners to retayle their wares or to trafique in the said towne of Leicester uppon the peynaltie in the said ordynaunces sett downe.

*Interest for cli.* (The interest for the £100 for redeeming the North Mills to be borne and paid by both the Companies as heretofore agreed.)

*Ex parte Henshaw et Blower.* (Indenture granted of a lease to remain "of trust." amongst the records of the town to the use of certain persons named, and the indenture receipted by indenture tripartite. "And is remaining in a box in the study under two locks and two keys.")

(p. 100.) [Sep. 21, 1594.] Christopher Sutton<sup>1</sup> fined for his absence at this day and divers other times and his great contempt therein and disobedience towards his Mayor at £5.)

[Sep. 29, 1594.] The said newe Maior sworne accordinge to the custome and for the repression and puttinge downe of kilnes and alehouses: and also for the recognicion of the Quenes Maiestie etc.

### CCCXLI. *The Steward's Receipts.*

Box 11 A, No. 6 (8). [Aug. 31, 1594.] Sir Edward Hastings' receipt for £10 of rent due for the borough court's profits and perquisites<sup>2</sup>.

### CCCXLII. *Chamberlains' Roll.*

[1593—4.] *Total of receipt...* £266. 19s. 10d.

*Payments.* Chief rents...to the bayliffe...for the rente of sheepe pennes...£4...for divers grounds...to the occupacion of the tayllors as of olde tyme hathe beene used 20d....£4. 11s. 11d.

*Rents* and fees payde oute for our parte...of the Graunge...£16. 2s. 11d.

*Rents...*for some parts of the landes...wee holde of the Quenes majestie in fee farme viz.: St John and St Leonard...to the audytor

<sup>1</sup> He was an inhabitant of the Bishop's Fee. Hall Book III, p. 112. See above p. 257 etc.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 300.

and receyvour for the rents of the lands and tenements belonging to the late hospitalls...in Mr Harvye and Mr Geo. Tatam's lease in Countisthorppe (etc.) £29. 17s. 2½d....

*Gyfts of wyne rewards and other things...* to Sir Edw. Hastings Kt...2 loves of refyned suger wayinge 19*li.* 20*s.* 24*s.*...Pepper case<sup>1</sup> 2*li.* 6*s.*...ginger 1*li.* 1*s.* 4*d.*...synemond half a pound 4*s.*...currans 12*li.* 5*s.*...reysings 12*li.* 3*s.* 8*d.*...proynes damask<sup>2</sup> 12*li.* 3*s.* 4*d.*...1*li.* of biskitts 1*li.* of carroweys and 1*li.* of comfetts 4*s.* in toto 51*s.* 4*d.*...to the Earle of Shresburye (wine etc.)...to the Earle of Huntingdon and the Cowntis of Huntingdon (wine, cakes, cherries) 16*s.* 10*d.*...to the Lorde Anderson lord chief judge of England (wine) 6*s.*...Judges at the Assises in Lent 1 mutton price 15*s.*...in somer (the same)...Queenes majesties playars more than was gaythered 10*s.*...Earle of Wosters<sup>3</sup> players who did playe 20*s.*...Erle of Derbyes playars who did playe 5*s.*...the Lord Sandwedge players who did not playe 5*s.*...messenger that brought the proclamacions for the terme to be holden at St Albans 3*s.* 4*d.*...pursyvant that brought the books for the third and iii<sup>th</sup> fyvetenthe and tenthe...3*s.* 4*d.*...geven to one that did labor to the Cowncell (a cowncellor) to procure the Councells lettre to the Justices of this countye of Leicester for the contynuyng of the contrybucion for the vizited and poore people in this towne...and to have had some of the xv<sup>en</sup> abated, for his paynes 20*s.*...£9. 4*s.* 11*d.*

*Reparacions...* 84*li.* of iron wrought into square barres for the chymney in the parler att the hall 14*s.*...23 doson of bricks to mende the said chymney...7*s.* 8*d.*...peyre of touniges and fyer shovell 3*s.* 2*d.*...for setts<sup>4</sup> which were bestowed in the Sowthe Felds 1*s.*...ditchinge and settinge the said setts 2*s.*...20 sinckefoyles to sett uppon the townes houses 3*s.* 4*d.*...pentinge of them redd 1*s.*...worke done abowte the olde hall...skowering of 6 halberds...for a pitche brand 1*s.* 8*d.*...charges in makinge readye of All Hallowes Church for the Judge to hold the Assyses in because the other parte of the towne was then infected with the sicknes 15*s.* 6*d.*...mendinge of thre payre of the common stocks 5*s.* 9*d.*...of a muskitt locke 1*s.*...of the bords whereon the Quenes armes are paynted in oyleling of them 6*d.*...mendinge the freeschoole chambre florethe with plaster 2*s.*...for oyle to dresse the leyther bucketts withall...dressing of the towne armor 20*s.*...buckles and reyvvyttes for the same 8*d.*...slatinge of the chambers over the East gates 2*s.*...iron worke abowte the stockes at the Sowthe gate 8*d.*...work done aboute the West gates...iii c. of large slates...3*s.*

<sup>1</sup> case ? for cakes.

<sup>2</sup> Wosters=Worcester's.

<sup>3</sup> Damascus prunes.

<sup>4</sup> slippings to make hedges of.

*Fees and other payments*...debt to late Chamberlains £46. 0s. 4d.... a sincke foyle of sylver to seale capyaces<sup>1</sup> withall 4s....(harnessed men at fairs)...John Woodward goldsmythe for mendinge and gyldinge of the olde mace 13s. 4d....of twoe of the lesser maces 16s....for 3½oz. of olde sylver to make the said two maces strownger 15s....for flyers<sup>2</sup> of the saide maces which were wantinge 3s. 6d....indentures of bargayne and sale from Ric. Archer to the Mayor and burgesses...of the twoe yardlands in the Sowthe Feldes (and several expenses connected therewith)...redd waxe used aboute wrytinges for the towne...for waytinge of Mr Mayor and lookinge for felons or suspected persons every markett daye 13s. 4d....(costs of releases connected with the windmill)...breade and cheese and ale...att the possessyon takynge ...for 6 yardes and a half of brode tawnye clothe at 10s. 6d. the yarde for the waytes cotes £3. 8s. 6d....(certificates and writings, Recorder's chamber)...8 yards of blacke frees to make Clayment Greene<sup>3</sup> a gowne 9s. 4d....3 yds of blacke cotton to lyne the said gowne 2s....certiffycate ...of the rates of servauntes wages, artificers and laborers.. 4s.... indentures of assignement...takinge uppe of a streve<sup>4</sup> lambe and the cryinge of it 4d....for the tryall of kyne offered to be solde in our Markett supposed to have bene stolne but were nott....

*Total*...£264. 8s. 3½d....due to the chamber 51s. 6½d.

### CCCXLIII. *Borough Rental.*

Box K, no number. *Villa Leicestrie*. [1594-5.] <sup>5</sup>A Rentall of suche parte of the lands and tenements as the Maior and Burgesses of the Town of Leicestre arr possessed and seised of in fee symple and by lease att this present. And of some parte of the lands and tenements the said Maior and Burgesses holde in fee farme from her Majestie and have nowe in theire present and actuall possession and due to the said Mayor and Burgesses for one whole yceeres rentt ended att the feaste of St Michael tharkaungell which shalbee in the yere of our lorde God 1595: as followethe viz.

*Rents of Assyse and Rentcs att will within the Towne of Leycester.*

Firste of Mr Wyckham for a close in St Margaretts parishe called

<sup>1</sup> writs of *capias*.

<sup>2</sup> The bows or arches supporting the ornament at the top of the mace.

<sup>3</sup> collector for the poor.

<sup>4</sup> streve = stray.

<sup>5</sup> This is preceded by a short list of rents increased and due on Harvy and Tatam's lease at Michaelmas 1595, and on Hawkes and Bates' lease: Arthur Tatams bayllywycke:—Of Thos. Fletcher ostler at Mic. 1595 due oute of his house in respect of his fyne, over and besyde his rent due to the bayllye thereof iis. and 2 others similarly. Here also is a list of freemen entered under Mr Tatam's mayoralty.

the stonne close, late in the occupacion of Mr Hallam by indenture per an. xis.

Item of wydowe Crofts for the Sheepe Pennes per an. ix*li*. vis. viii*d*.

Item of Mr Fane scholemaster for the howsse neire the schoole howsse per an. xxvis. viii*d*.

Item of the heyres of Gaddisbye in rente of assyse oute of certen lande in the Northe Gate, late Gaddesbyes lande per annum xxi*d*.

Item of Robertt Pylkington for ii leys in the horsse fayor per annum iis.

Item of Mr James Clarke for the chambers over the Easte Gate per annum iiiis. vi*d*.

Item of Anthonye Webster shoemaker for a wyndowe openynge into the Easte Gate per annum iii*d*.

Item of Raphe Orton, for the shreadinges of the wyllowes in the Cowe Heye per annum vis.

Item of Mr Robt. Gyllatt for the Butt Close per annum viiis.

Item of Mr John Stanford for a howse in Belgrave gate late in John Crosses occupacion per annum xiis.

Item of John Myddleton of Exton for a howse in Bawdewyn lane neire the West Gate late in Thomas Mores occupacion vs.

Item of Thomas Pare for the chambers over the West Gate per annum iiiis. i*d*.

Item of John Wales for a gardyn in Senvye Gate per annum iis.

Item of John Awsitor for the chambers over the Northe Gate per annum iis. viii*d*.

Item of John Adcocke butcher for a peece of grounde in St Nycholas parishe, per annum vis. viii*d*.

Item of John Knight tanner for a tenement in the Northe Gate late in Ryc. Sympsons occupacion per annum xs.

Item of Rycharde Smythe tanner for a tenement in the Northe Gate per annum xs.

Item of goodwife Rodes for a p(l)ace of grounde in the Northe Gate iis.

Item of Mr Robardes for a tenement in the Northe Gate in thoccupacion of Wyar iiiis. iii*d*.

Item of Jeffrye Whatton for a tenement att the Northe Bridge ende per annum xvvis.

John Harryce for a howsse att the Northe Bridge ende, late in thoccupacion of Wydowe Deacon per annum vs.

Item the chambers over the Sowthe Gate per annum vs. iii*d*.

Item of one Will<sup>m</sup>. Cotton for a howsse called the Waterlagge<sup>1</sup> neyre the Sore and the Friers per annum viiis.

Item of Thomas Overend chaundler for a piece of ground neyre the Butt Close per annum iiid.

Item for the easment of a chymney throughe the West Gate oute of the howsse adioyninge thereunto late in the occupacion of John Walker deccased per annum iiid.

Item of Raphe Chettell, woollen draper, for a messuage or tenemente in the Swynes Markytt late in the occupacion of John Harryson, appotycarye, per annum xxis. sold to Mr Raphe Chetle before Michaellmas therefore he is to have y<sup>e</sup> rent.

*Chief Rentes due at Michaellmas onely.*

Item of Mr Roberdes for a rentte charge yssuyng oute of a close called the Tayllors Close, per annum xiid.

Item of Raphe Orton for a chief rentt due oute of a howsse neyre the Highe Crosse, called Wynterstalls house, per annum vid.

Somma xviii*li*. is. iid.

*Other rentes in the Cuntry.*

Item of Roger Pawlmer for lande meadowe and pasture in Gyllmorton sometye one John Sprigges, per annum iiis. iiid.

Michaellmas.

Item of Thomas Marton alias Morton oute of the landes and tenements sometye one Nicholas Mortons in Mutche Ashebye, per annum vid.

Item of William Bryght of Scryptofte oute of the landes and tenementes of one John Masons theire, late one Thomas Symkyns, and sometye one Thomas Tayllors of Wheston, per annum vid.

Somma iiis. iiid.

*Rentes for the Graunge as followeth—*

Item of Rycharde Burstall, Edmundes Hawkes and W<sup>m</sup>. Hobbye, for twoe partes of our moytye or halfe parte of the Graunge, xxviii*li*. which xxviii*li*. they are appoynted yerelye to pay to the preacher, Mr Sacheverell, and to receive his acquittaunces per annum xxviii*li*. which acquittances you are to receyve in lue of the rent, and so he paid his annuytye.

Item of Mr Mabbes for a thirde part of the said moytye or halfe parte of the said Graunge per annum xiiii*li*. whereof he ys yerelye to paye to our preacher xls., to make the aforesaid xx[viii]<sup>2</sup>*li*. xxx*li*.

xiiii*li*.

<sup>1</sup> See p. 6, note 3.

<sup>2</sup> omitted.

Item of Mr Robertt Pylkyngton for the iiiii<sup>th</sup> parte of our said moiety or half parte of the said Graunge and for Tayllors farme, and for the obytt land (which is iiis. per annum) for all joynctlye togeyther per annum xx*l*.

Item of John Newbolde, mylner, for oure moytie or half parte of the mylnes parcell of the Graunge per annum iiiii*l*. iiis. iiiid.

Item of John Johnson for our parte or moytie of the howsse called the Milne Howsse nowe the signe of the Bull in the Sowthe Gate parcell of the said Graunge per annum xs.

Item of George Sommerfylde for the close in the Fryth parcell of the said Graunge per annum x*l*.

Item of Thomas Nurce and John Newbolde for the wynde milne in the Sowthe Feeldes, lately bought of Mr Wightman per annum xxxiiis. iiiid.

Somma iii<sup>xx</sup>viiii*l*. vis. viiid.

Whereof xxx*l*. deducted for the preacher.

*Other rentes for landes wee holde of Her Maiestie in fee farme,  
viz. St John and Leonards.*

*In the Abbye Gate.*

Firste of Thomas Charleton for a howsse with thappurtenaunces by indenture, per annum xiis.

Item of Will<sup>m</sup>. Deathicke, for a howsse with thappurtenaunces by indenture, per annum vis. viiid.

Item John Hewytt, for a howsse with thappurtenaunces by indenture, per annum iiis.

Item of Frances Knight for a house with thappurtenaunces by indenture, per annum vis. viiid.

Item of John Brewarne for a howsse with thappurtenaunces by indenture, per annum viis.

*In the North Gate.*

Item of Mr Hynde for a howsse with thappurtenaunces which he holdithe in fee farme per annum iiis.

Item of Hughe Marshall for a howsse with thappurtenaunces in the occupacion of John Smythe, carpenter, which the said Hughe holdithe in fee farme, per annum iiis.

Item of the said Hughe Marshall for a howsse with thappurtenaunces in his occupacion and which he also holdithe in fee farme per annum xs.

Item of John Smythe, weyver, for a howsse with thappurtenaunces per annum iiis. (Loke in your newe note.)

Item of Lawrance Sixweekes for a howsse per annum iiis.

Item of Mr George Tatam and Mr John Hynde for the Northe Mylns by indenture, per annum viiil.

*In Senvye Gate.*

Item of Rycharde Bruckes for a howsse per annum iiis.

Item of W<sup>m</sup>. Bellgrave for a howsse per annum iiis.

Item of John Scott for a tenement with thappurtenances in his occupation by indenture per annum vis. viiil.

Item of Elynor Tompson wydowe for a tenement in her ocupacion by indenture per annum vs.

Item of John Jesson for a howsse in his ocupacion per annum vs.

Item Will. Gennarde for a howse in his ocupacion per annum iiis.

Item of Will. Bigges for a howsse neire unto the Northe Gate which he holdithe in fee farme per annum iis.

Item of Thomas Wyckcoxe for a tenemente in his ocupacion per annum vs.

*In the Sore Lane or Walker Lane.*

Item of Mr Rudyarde for a piece of grounde which he holdithe in fee farm per annum iis.

*Within the Northe Gate.*

Item of Rychard Kynge for a messuage or tenemente with thappurtenances in his ocupacion per annum xvis. Loke in your newe note.

Item of Wydowe Claver for a howsse in her ocupacion per annum vis.

Item of Edwarde Tayllor for a house in his ocupacion per annum vs. iiiid. Loke your new note.

Item of Myles Rygges for a howse in his ocupacion per annum vs.

Item of Ralfe Tomson for a howsse in his ocupacion per annum iiis.

Item of Robertt Bingham for a howse in his ocupacion per annum iiis.

Item of Thomas Brasyfde for a house in his ocupacion parcell of St Johannes per annum iiis.

Item of George Downes for the howsse called St Johannes in his ocupacion per annum vis. viiil.

Item of W<sup>m</sup>. Greene, glasier, for a close in his ocupacion parcell of St Johannes per annum viiis.

Item of the same W<sup>m</sup>. Greene for a mesuage or tenements with thappurtenautes in his ocupacion per annum xiis.



Item of Raphe Orton, woollen draper, for a shoppe and chambers neire the Highe Crosse in his ocupacion per annum vis. viiid.

Item of Edwarde Baggatt for a howsse with thappurtenaunces in his ocupacion per annum viiis. iiiid.

Item of Wydowe Tyllinge, for a howse in her ocupacion per annum vis.

Item of Henrye Trowell for a howsse in his ocupacion per annum iiiis.

Item of Wydowe Wyllyamson for a howsse in her ocupacion per annum iiis. id.

Item of John Bande, smythe, for a howse late in the ocupacion of John Pepper per annum vis. viiid.

*In the Horsse Fayor.*

Item of Mr Robert Pilkington for leys in the Hors Fayor per annum iiis.

*In or neyre the Milneston Lane.*

Item of Rychard Archer for a gardyn place per annum iis. vid.

Item of Robertt Aston for a crofte or lyttle close he holdithe in fee farme per annum iiis. iiiid.

*In the Sowthe Gate.*

Item of W<sup>m</sup>. Wighte for a messuage or tenements with thappurtenaunces in his ocupacion per annum xvis.

Item of Michaell Nutt for a howsse in his ocupacion per annum vis.

Item of W<sup>m</sup>. Browne for a howsse with thappurtenaunces in his ocupacion per annum xs. Loke in your newe note.

Item of Peter Harryson for a howsse with thappurtenaunces in his ocupacion per annum xiiis.

Item of Thomas Gorton, sleymaker, for a messuage or tenement and one close with thappurtenaunces in his ocupacion per annum xiiis.

Item of John Marvyn, laborer, for a howsse late in the ocupacion of Fraunces Bate, and nowe of the said Marvyn, withoute the consent and agreement of the Maior and Chamberlyns, rent per annum vs.

Item of John Borrowes for a messuage or tenemente with thappurtenaunces in his ocupacion by indenture per annum xxs.

*In Burges Meadowe.*

Item of Mr Morton for a peece of meadowe called the Shielde in his ocupacion in fee farme per annum xvis.

Item of the same Mr Morton for two acres of meadowe, in his occupacion in fee farme per annum xiiis. iiid.

*In the Swynes Markytt.*

Item of Hughe Orton for twoe messuages or tenementes lyinge togyther, nowe used as one tenemente in his occupacion in fee farme per annum xviiiis.

Item of Wydowe Harvye for a howsse in her occupacion per annum vs.

*In Parchement Lane.*

Item of Thomas Pestell, for a howsse in his occupacion per annum iiis.

Item of Anthonye Webster for a howsse in his occupacion per annum iiis. iiid. Loke your newe note.

*In the Sayturdaye Markytt.*

Item of Wydowe Basford for a howsse with thappurtenaunces in her occupacion per annum xxis.

*In Losebye Lane.*

Item of Robertt Pickforke for a howsse with thappurtenaunces in his occupacion per annum vs.

Item of Wydowe Seele for a howsse in her occupacion per annum viis.

Item of Wydowe Houghe for a howsse in her occupacion per annum viiis.

Item of John Dracott for a howsse in his occupacion per annum ix.

Item of Thomas Askewithe, for a howsse in his occupacion per annum xs.

Item of John Davye, for certen howses or tenementes by the name of one tenemente in the severall tenures of hymself and others, per annum xs.

*In Holy Roode Lane or Church Gate.*

Item of John Flampson for a howsse or barne called St Georges Hall with thappurtenaunces in his occupacion in fee farme per annum vis. viiid.

Item of W<sup>m</sup>. Hobbye for a messuage or tenemente with thappurtenaunces in his occupacion per annum xiiis. iiid.

*In Galtrye Gate.*

Item of Johanne Oldham, wydowe, for a howsse in the occupacion of W<sup>m</sup>. Callys per annum viiis.

Item of Wydowe Harryson for a howsse in her occupacion per annum xvs.

Item of John Pearce for a tenemente or shoppe in his occupacion in fee farme per annum iiijis.

Item of Rychard Parker for a tenement in his occupacion in fee farme per annum xs.

*In Bellgrave Gate.*

Item of W<sup>m</sup>. Fowler for a gardyn in his occupacion per annum xs.

Item of Robertt Johnson for a tenemente in the occupacion of Thomas Rawson per annum xs.

Item of Edward Abell for a howsse with thappurtenaunces in his occupacion per annum viiis.

Item of Anthonye Fletcher for a tenement with thappurtenaunces in his occupacion per annum viiis.

Item of Anthonye Brucksbye for a mesuage or tenement with the appurtenaunces in his occupacion per annum xs. xd.

Item of John Pegge for a mesuage or tenement in his occupacion per annum xiiis. iiijd.

*In St Margarettes Church Gate.*

Item of W<sup>m</sup>. Sympson, the younger, for a howsse with thappurtenaunces in his occupacion per annum iiijis.

*In or neyre St Magarettes Cowe Pasture.*

Item of the church wardyns of St Margarettes parishe, for a peece of meadowe, per annum viiis.

*In the Cuntrye.*

Item of Mr Walter Hastings, esquier, for one close and certen lande leazues and pastures with thappurtenaunces in Braunston in his occupacion in fee farme, per annum xiiis. viiiid.

Item of John Barlowe of Hinckley, for tofte, i crofte and i yarde lande in his occupacion in fee farme, per annum xvs.

Item George Dylke and one Bollesworthe of Kirkbye Mallorie, for one messuage or tenemente and one yarde lande with thappurtenaunces in Kirckbye aforesaid per annum vis. viiiid.

Item of Anthonye Smythe of Bellgrave for one parcell of lande and leys called Kymton Hill, and one yarde lande with thappurtenaunces in Belgrave, the which Anthony Culverwell of London, merchaunte, holdithe in fee farme, per annum ixs.

Item of W<sup>m</sup>. Buttrye of Humberston for one messuage or tenement with thappurtenaunces in Humberston which ys sold in fee farme to Mr George Tatam xiiis. iiijid.

Item of Robertt Heyne of Thrussington for one yarde land with thappurtenaunces in Thrussington, sold in fee farme per annum vis. viiid.

Item of John Straunge of Reyrisbye for a messuage or tenement with thappurtenaunces in Reyrysbye sold to Mr George Tatam in fee farme, per annum xviiis.

Item of John Hubbarde of Seygrave for one crofte or close there, in his occupacion in fee farme, per annum iis.

Item of W<sup>m</sup>. Mason of Barkebye for certen lande theire in his occupacion in fee farme, per annum viiis.

Item of John Turlington of Houghton for certen parcells of meadowe theire in his occupacion in fee farme, per annum vis. viiid.

Item of Mr John Danett, Esquier, for certen errable lande ley and hades<sup>1</sup> in the Weste Feeld in his occupacion, per annum iiis.

Item of James Buswell of Countisthorppe for one messuage or tenemente and iiii yarde land withe thappurtenaunces in Countisthorppe in his occupacion in fee farme, per annum xxvs.

Item of Mr Thomas Cave, Esquier, for a messuage or tenemente with thappurtenaunces in Hougerton, which he holdithe in fee farme, per annum xxxs.

Item of the said Mr Cave for the milnes called Sytheston milnes and a howsse with thappurtenaunces in Sytheston aforesaid, which he holdithe in fee farme, per annum iiili. vis. viiid.

Somma xlviil. is. id.

*Chiefe rentes to be receyved at Michaellmas. St John  
and Leonard.*

Item of the wardyn of the newe Hospitall, per annum xvid. ob.

Item of Mr W<sup>m</sup>. Noryce oute of a howsse of his called the Foxe in the Northe Gate, per annum ix*d*.

Item oute of the lande of W<sup>m</sup>. Davye in Galtrye Gate nowe or late in the occupacion of Robert Noryce, per annum vid.

Item oute of Thromaston mylnes in the occupacion of Francys Presgrave, per annum vis. viiid.

Item oute of certen lande of Mr Waldrams of Odebye, per annum vs. xid. ob.

Item oute of the Vycaridge of Odebye, per annum xii*d*.

Item of John Blysse of Odebye oute of certen lande theire in his occupacion, per annum vid.

Item oute of the lande of John Hitchecocke of Odebye, per annum x*d*.

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<sup>1</sup> heads, headlands.

Item oute of the lande of Robert Juseley in Senvye gate in Leycester, per annum ix*d*.

Item oute of a gardyn in St Margarettes Church Gate, in the occupacion of Mr Smalley as ys sayd, per annum xii*d*.

Somma xix*s*. iii*d*.

Other landes and tenementes in Hawkes and Bates lease which is nowe expired at the Annunciacion of the Virgyn Marye, 1595.

Hawkes and Bates.

Item of John Newbolde, milner, for a messuage or tenemente in the Sowthe gate in his occupacion, per annum xs.

Item of Mathewe Skeythe for a tenemente in the Sowthe Gate in his occupacion, per annum vis.

Item of Nycholas Bale for a tenemente in the Sowthe Gate in his occupacion, per annum xs.

Item of Michaell Nutt for a tenemente in the Sowthe Gate in his occupacion, per annum viis.

Item of John Bugge for a tenement and litle crofte in the Sowthe Gate in his occupacion, per annum vis. viii*d*.

Item of John Bonnytt, for a messuage or tenemente with thappurtenaunces in the Swynes Markytt in the occupacion of Wydowe Heyrycke, and which the said John Bonnytt holdithe in fee farme, per annum xx*s*. iiiii*d*.

Item of W<sup>m</sup>. Hunte, baker, for a mesuage or tenemente in his occupacion, per annum xxv*s*. viii*d*.

Item of Mr George Tatam for fyve tenementes lyinge togeyther in Belgrave Gate which he holdithe in fee farme, per annum xii*s*.

Item of John Screyvyn for a mesuage or tenemente in the Northe Gate in his occupacion, per annum viii*s*. iiiii*d*. Loke your newe note.

Item of Mr Roberdes for a tenemente in Senvye Gate, late in the occupacion of old Dawson, nowe in his occupacion in fee farme, per annum vs.

Item of Robertt Yeadon for two tenementes in Senvye Gate in his occupacion, per annum xs.

Item of W<sup>m</sup>. Hallam for a howse in the Cancke Streete late in the occupacion of old Dawson rent nowe per annum xii*s*. iiiii*d*.

Item of W<sup>m</sup>. Bothomley, weyvor, for a tenemente in St Margarettes Church Gate, per annum vs.

Item of the said W<sup>m</sup>. Bothomley, which he owethe to the Mayor and Burgesses of the towne of Leicester, in full payment of xxx*s*. for the fyne of his howsse, and which is due att the Annunciacion of the blessed Virgyn Marye, 1595, and ys then to be paid or els to lose the

mony he hathe paid alreadye, and also the bargayne to bee voyde, xvs.

Item of John Woodford, for a tenement or barne in the Church Gate of St Margarettes in his ocupacion, per annum iiis.

Item of W<sup>m</sup>. Gryffyn for a tenemente in St Nycholas parishe in his ocupacion and late of one Smythe, plumers, per annum vis.

Item of Thomas Smythe, weyvor, for a howsse with thappurtenaunces in the Sowthe Gate in his ocupacion, per annum xiiis. iiid.

Item of Mr Ludlam for a howsse with thappurtenaunces in the Sowthe Gate late in the ocupacion of Miles, tayllor, and before that of Rychard Shippon, per annum xiiis. iiid.

Item of Thomas Coll, ropemaker, for i howsse or tenemente, sometye ii tenementes in the Sowthe Gate, per annum xxs.

Item of John Davye, maulster, for a tenemente with thappurtenaunces in the Sowthe Gate in his ocupacion, per annum xs.

Item of Wydowe Massye, or of John Woodd for ii tenementes lyinge togeyther in the Sowthe Gate, late in the tenure of Raphe Massye, for the halfe yeeres rente due and ended at the feaste of the Annunciacion of the Virgyn Marye, 1595, xs. iid.

Item of Lewys Fitch for ii tenementes lyinge together in the Sowthe Gate late in the ocupacion of Raphe Massye beinge the tenementes before mencioned and which the said Lewys Fytche holdethe by indenture from the Annuncyacion, 1595, from the Mayor and Burgesses of the towne of Leicester, for the halfe yeeres rente due and ended att the feaste of St Michaell tharkangel, 1595, xs. iid.

Item of Rycharde Hynde, inholder, for a messuage or tenemente, in the Sowthe Gate, called the Swanne, in his ocupacion, per annum xxvs. viiid.

Item of the said Rychard Hynde for a howsse and gardyn in the Sowthe Gate sometye a vaccande peece of grounde nowe or late in the ocupacion of one Robt. Stanton alias Smythe, smythe, for the halfe yeeres rente due and ended att the feast of the Annunciacion of the Virgyn Marye, 1595, iis.

Item of the said Robert Stanton alias Smythe, smythe, for the halfe yeeres rente of the said howsse and gardyn (which he nowe holdithe by indenture for terme of yeres from the Annunciacion 1595) due and ended at the feast of St Michaell tharkangel vs.

Item of Rycharde Woodcocke for a howsse with thappurtenaunces in Bellgrave Gate late in the ocupacion of W<sup>m</sup>. Browne, tayllor, and nowe of the said Woodcocke, per annum xiiis.

Item of Henrye Kylbye for a howsse with thappurtenaunces in Bellgrave Gate in his ocupacion, per annum xiiis.

Item of Rycharde Bright for a howsse with thappurtenaunces in Bellgrave Gate in his occupacion, per annum vs.

Item of Thomas Bennytt for a howsse in Bellgrave Gate in his occupacion, per annum vs.

Item of Michael Barcke, tayllor, for a housse in his occupacion, per annum viiis. Loke your newe note.

Item of Robertt Orton, smythe, for a tenemente with thappurtenaunces in his occupacion, per annum xiis.

Item of W<sup>m</sup>. Smythe, shoemaker, for a tenemente with thappurtenaunces in his occupacion, per annum viiis.

Item of Rychard Burley, laborer, for a tenemente and a close in his occupacion late in the occupacion of Rycharde Birches in Bellgrave gate, per annum xxis.

Item of John Warde, carryar, for a tenemente with thappurtenaunces in his occupacion in Bellgrave Gate, per annum viis.

Item of Lawrence Rudyarde for a tenemente with thappurtenaunces in Bellgrave Gate, per annum xvis.

Item of Robertt Pilkington, gentleman, for a tenemente with thappurtenaunces in Bellgrave Gate, per annum vis.

Item of George Rydgley for a tenemente with thappurtenaunces in Bellgrave Gate called the Cocke, per annum xs.

Item of John Woodshawe for a tenemente with thappurtenaunces in his occupacion, per annum xvis. Somma xx*li*. xs.

*Rentes increased of other landes and tenementes as followeth, viz.*

Item of William Chamberlyn, the younger, baker, for a messuage or tenemente in Applegate Streete which he holdithe in fee farme, per annum ix*s*.

Item of George Greene, butcher, for a rent increased oute of a messuage or tenemente in Applegate Streete in his occupacion, per annum vis. viii*d*.

Item of Rycharde Cowper for a rente increased oute of a messuage or tenemente in Senvy Gate in his occupacion, per annum iis.

Item of Robertt Aston for a rente increased oute of certen landes and tenementes he holdithe in fee farme in the Sowthe Gate, per annum vs. x*d*.

Item of W<sup>m</sup>. Fowler for a rente increased oute of a close and certen howses in St Margarettes Church Gate in his occupacion, per annum vis. viii*s*. Somma xxx*s*. ii*d*.

Rentes and cheffes the wholl 100 lxvii*li*. xv*s*. viii*d*.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> For a list of the yearly rents of St Margaret's gild (£18. 12*s*. 3*d*.) and the town obit lands, 1595, see Box 4 A, No. 7.

CCCXLIV. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 106. [March 14, 1595.] *Rents, Fines, Amerciamentes, etc.* Item itt is agreed to appoynte and chuse two sufficient and skilfull men to collect and gaither vppe yeerelie the rentes of the landes and tenementes wee holde in fee farme of Her Maiestie, and the fines, amerciamentes, wayves, straves<sup>1</sup> and felons goodes to y<sup>e</sup> vse of the towne, etc.

*Interest Monye.* Item it is nowe further agreed (that not withstandinge a former acte made the laste yeere for the payment of the interest for a *cli.* taken up of Mr Okes for ii yeeres, after viii*li.* the yeere, the which interest was then agreed to be paid by the two Companyes of the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> and XLVIII<sup>ti</sup>) that the said two Companies shall paie but onelie the halfe of the said interest for the said yeere paste; and the other halfe thereof which is iii*li.*, to be paid by Mr Heyricke the late Maior oute of his receiptes for the towne.

[Ap. 16, 1595.] *Towchinge the Sargiantes, etc.* Firste whereas there hath bene heretofore controversie and varience betwixte the Maior and Burgesses of the towne of Leicester, and also John Wilne, gentleman, the Queenes Maiesties Bayllif, of the same towne, towchinge the nomination and plasinge of the foure Sargiantes: Hit is nowe therefore agreed vppon betwixst the said Maior and Burgesses of the one parte, and the said John Wilne, Bayliffe, of the other parte, in maner and form followinge, that ys to saye: That it shalbe lawfull from henceforth for the Maior and Burgesses of the towne of Leicester from tyme to tyme to nominate and appoynte two of the said foure Sargiantes, which shalbe kept at the onlie charges of the towne, who shall onelie attend vppon the Maior and of the townes busines, and shall arreste people and be attorneys in the towne Courte as hath bene vsed by the bayllies Sargiantes. (p. 107.) And the Baylliffe to nominate, chuse and appoynte other towne of the said foure Sargiantes, to attend on hym, and to arreste people and to be attorneys in the Courte and to be kept at his onelie charges. And the townes two Sargiantes to gayther the fines, amerciamentes and canmoles<sup>2</sup> for the vse of the towne, and to looke to the other busines of the townes, as fealons, wayves and straves<sup>1</sup> etc. And they to bee bounde to the towne, for to make true collection and payment of that which belongeth to their offices and shalbe charged with all by reason therof, and to deale iustlie and truelie in their said offices. And also to be bounde to the Baylliffe to saue him harmeles of all fynes, amercia-

<sup>1</sup> See p. 300.

<sup>2</sup> See 1. p. 207, note 3.



mentes and escapes of suche as they or either of them shall from tyme to tyme arreste and be charged with all. And also itt is agreed that the said Maior and Burgesses and their successors shall at their costes and charges euerie fourth yeere geve vnto the Bailiffes two Sergiantes either of them a gowne clothe, for and in consideracion of their attendance, who shall also attend on the Maior for the tyme beinge, from tyme to tyme as hath heretofore bene vsed and accustomed. And they the said iii<sup>or</sup> Sergiantes, to have all suche fees and afeyles<sup>1</sup> as hath bene also heretofore vsed. The bayllif to pay his ii Sergiantes their standinge wages. And the towne to paye their ii Sergiantes their standinge wages. And the said foure Sergiantes to have gowne clothes geven them the next yeere before Martlemas, and to be comely made at their owne charges ageynst that tyme, etc.

[Ap. 23, 1595.] *Commissioners.* Att this Common Hall, these parsons whose names are hereunder written, are appoynted to lett, sett and sell any of the towne land, or fee farme land and either or any of them vntill Michaelmas next.

*The Commissioners names, viz.*

Mr George Tatam, Maior, to bee allwayes one.

*Of the xxiii<sup>th</sup>.* Mr John Tatam, Mr John Stanford, Mr Ellice, Mr Ludlam, Mr Ralph Chettell, Mr Gyllatt, Mr Thomas Chettell.

*Of the XLVIII<sup>th</sup>.* Henry Halpenye, }  
Will<sup>m</sup>. Stanley } camerariis,

John Bonnett, Will<sup>m</sup>. Warde, George Brooke.

[*Orphans' goods.*] [June 12, 1595.] (p. 108.) Memorandum, that ...there was delyvered vnto George Tatam, Maior of the towne of Leicester, by Mr Robertt Pylkington, gentleman, one boxe sealed vppe, wherein ys certen evidences, and is by the said order, remeyninge with the said Master Pilkington, appoynted to be safelie kepte in a boxe with twoe keyes in the Chamber of the towne of Leicester, to and for the vse of Racheel Raven, wydowe, one of the daughters of John Welche, late of Yeerell Shilton<sup>2</sup>, decessed, and of Marie the wief of Symon Burton, one other of the daughters of the said John Welche. The which boxe was then by the said Symon Burton vnsealed and therein ys tenne peeces of evidences in parchment and twoe writinges in paper. And the same evidences and writinges are put ageyne into the said boxe, and the same boxe sealed vppe ageyne, in the presence of the said Mr Tatam, Maior, Mr Pilkington, and of John Mauncefeld of Shilton aforesaid, Rycharde Howe of the same

<sup>1</sup> afeyles = avails.

<sup>2</sup> Earl Shilton.

and of W<sup>m</sup> Dethicke, Clark to the Maior of the towne of Leicester, or Towne Clarke there.

George Tatam, Maior.

Robertt Pilkington.

John Mauncefeld.

Richard Howe.

W. Dethyck.

The oregonall hereof, vnder the handes of the said testes, remeynethe vppon the file of the said Mr Tatam Maior, his yeere, the seconde tyme of his mayraltye.

[July 10,<sup>5</sup> 1595.] *Robert Robardes dismyssed.* Att this meetinge, Mr Robert Roberttes, one of the XXIII<sup>th</sup>, was called before Mr Maior and his said bretherne, whoe did appeire before them, att which tyme he was charged with a moste filthie and lewde cryme (viz.) one — Dawson of Leicester, wydowe, hathe before the said Maior and some other of his bretherne charged hym that he hathe had (att seuerall tymes and places) carnall knowledge of her bodie: and that he hathe (as shee thincketh) begott her with childe. All whiche the said Mr Roberttes hathe denyed. Notwithstandinge, the said Mr Maior and his bretherne haue discharged the said Robertt Roberdes (for the said cryme) of and from the Companye of the XXIII<sup>th</sup> and Councell of the said towne, vntill suche tyme as he can and shall cleire himself of the said cryme by due and lawfull meanes.

(p. 109.) Also att this meetinge it was agreed that Lybyns Chamberlyn and Will<sup>m</sup>. Warde shoulde be made two of the XXIII<sup>th</sup> and sworne the xvi<sup>th</sup> of Julye.

And also than was chosen oute of the Comynaltye to be made of the XLVIII<sup>th</sup>, James Pawlmer, sworne the said xvi<sup>th</sup> of Julye. refusethe: John Pare.

Will<sup>m</sup>. Vickers, sworne the said xvi<sup>th</sup> of Julye.

John Tompson.

*For the first payment of the third Subsidie of three entire subsidies.* The commission for the first payment of the thirde subsidie of three entier subsidies for the towne of Leicester was delyvered to Master Maior the — daye of —.

The Commyssions names etc., viz. The Maior of the towne of Leicester. The Erle of Huntingdon. Thomas Cave, Armiger. Ric. Parkyns, Recordator ville predictæ. James Clarke, Will<sup>ms</sup> Morton, Robertus Heyrycke, armigeri<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Box 9 A, Nos. 5, 6, 7, Aug. 30, 1595, Constables of the wards ordered to appear before the commissioners for the taxation of the subsidy.

[Sep. 21, 1595.] (p. 112.) *Christofer Sutton*. Memorandum that Christofer Sutton<sup>1</sup> at this Common Hall was chosen to bee one of the Chamberlyns (whoe at this present absented him selfe from the same, because he was dwellinge in the Bishopps Fee), at which tyme the Mace bearer was sent for hym, to come to the said Common Hall, but he absentinge himselfe, coulde not bee founde by the said messenger, and therefore was fyned for his dissobeadiance therein, and for not takynge the said office vppon hym, att *vli*.

[*Toll of horsess.*] Memorandum also that whereas the Tole of horsess was of late let to John Clarke for *xxs.* rent per annum, hit is nowe agreed, at the humble and pitifull suyte of Will<sup>m</sup>. Ryvitt, that the said Will<sup>m</sup>. Ryvytt duringe his lief, shall haue halfe the profittes of the Tole of horsess, and to ioyne withe the said John Clarke at the Fayors, by hymselfe, or his sufficient deputie in kepinge of the Tole book. And the said John Clarke duringe the lyfe of the said Ryvytt, to paye butt *xs.* by yeere. And the said Ryvitt (p. 113) to paye nothings for the same. And the said John Clarke to haue the only custodie and salfe keepinge of the said Tole booke, and after the deceasse of the said Will<sup>m</sup>. Ryvytt, the said John Clarke to haue the whole Tole for horsess, for so many yeeres after the decesse of the said Ryvytt, as the said Ryvitt shall live, after this Common Hall, accordinge to the number of the yeeres to hym, by the Commyssioners heretofore lett, payinge yeerelye for the same after the deceasse of the said Ryvytt *xxs.* per annum.

[*Victuals.*] (Two assisers of victuals chosen (with the Mayor) according to statute because the Mayor's wife is a common brewer.)

[*Constables.*] [Sep. 29, 1595.] (p. 117.) (On Ascension Even the constables and "third barows" are to be summoned by the macebearer to appear before the Mayor for their charge.)

#### CCCXLV. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1594—5.] *Rents ... Chapmans Gild ... Other Receipts ...* of the Company of the eighte and forty towards the paymente of the rewarde to playars att ii tymes *15s. 4d.*...ocupacion of the bakers... weyvors...butchers...shoomakers and upon their ordynall...tymber lying att the Graunge...Company of the XXIII<sup>th</sup> towards the paymente of the rewarde to playors att ii tymes *16s.*...for dockitt monye which shoulde haue been paid in the mayraltye of Mr R. Heyricke *8s.*...

<sup>1</sup> See above p. 302 and below p. 325.

Other Receiptes for fynes, amercyaments, wayves, straves, and felons goods, this yeere and due to the towne of Leicester by reason of a lease thereof from Sir Ed. Hastings Knight for the yerelye rente of £10...viz. :—

In primis receyved for 8 yardes of white sackcloth wayved<sup>1</sup>... 3s. 6d....3*li.* of wooll wayved 2s. 6d....one ewesheepe beinge strayve 2s....of wydowe Heynes for the forfytt of a horsse that killed her husbände 4s....wood weyved...a rownde trottinge geldinge wayved £4. 10s. 0d....blacke stonde<sup>2</sup> horsse wayved...36s. 8d....a white nagge ...payre of knitt stockings beinge felons goods 2s. 8d....3 yardes of strawe colered myllyon<sup>3</sup> fustyan...7s. 4d....payre of oulde buckeskyne hose...a s[w]arme of bees strayved 3s. 4d....for dockett monye...for Canmole in his (the serjeant's) office...(serjeant) in parte paymente of the fynes and amercyaments within his office or leete...of the bakers book 15s. 1d....Master Bayllye Wilne for fynes in oure courte 2s. 6d. £16. 5s. — <sup>4</sup>.

*Total receipt* £217. 15s. 7½*d.*

(Lands leased and sold £110. 15s. — <sup>4</sup>.)

*Payments.* Towards the keeping of a childe...(because born in Leicester)...out of the paryshes in the towne of Leicester 13s. 6d....

(Payments on loans £53. 9s. 6d.)

*Guiftes*...Lorde Morlyes players who were not suffered to playe 5s....Lorde Mount Eagle his players att twoe tymes 8s. 4d....Lord Darsye his players 5s....Lord Ogle his playars 5s....a preacher...the Bysshope of Durham...geaven the gentlemen att the cockinge and att the cockpitt in wyne and suger, cherries, cakes and breade 21s. 4d. ...Erle of Wosters players 30s....Queenes Majesties players 40s.... Mr Banester the Towne Clarke of Coventry...whoe gave informacion of xlii. by yeere which is to come to Leicester after certen yeeres expired...a mynysters wyf att the requeste of Master Sampson and Mr Sacheverill 3s. 4d....towards the plasinge of (a child)...Collectors for the toun of Stratforde uppon Haven in regarde of there losse by fyar 13s. 4d....George Warde bearewarde 10s....

*Reparacions*...schoolhowse...newe halle called the Guilde Hall...

*Other charges* and payments in settinge forthe of three soldyars into Irelande as followeth viz. a pike man furnyshed with a coreslett, a muscatar and a calyver...blewe cloth for the cotes...29 yardes and a halfe of ribyn for the same cotes...a yard and a neyle of blewe tafata for the said cotes...2 skeynes of sylke...corde to mayle<sup>5</sup> the harnes

<sup>1</sup> From Lat. waviare, to abandon, to be without an owner.

<sup>2</sup> stone horse, a stallion.

<sup>3</sup> Milan.

<sup>4</sup> torn.

<sup>5</sup> mayle = pack.

togeyther...conduckte money 10s. apeece...dryncke geaven them goinge to Twycrosse where they were to bee delyvered to Sir Geo. Hastings...(2 named) with the said soldyars to see them and theire armour and furnytüre delyvered...payre of shewes geaven to a poore man 2s....paide for the cryeing and pynnyng of towe sheepe...oyle and tax<sup>1</sup> for the harnes...harnest men att the fowre fayors...making of the new mace (for the serjeant)...revealinge or makeinge knowen unto Mr Maior and the Justices three felons 6s. 8d....to Morcott in Rutland to a tanner there dwellinge that had byn robbed by certen persons, as was saide, staide in this towne 4s....goinge unto Sir Geo. Villiers knyghte aboute the monye he oweth unto the towne which is £20...in suytt of lawe for the money J. M. oweth for his freedom...

*Total*.....£186. 3s. 5½*d*.....remayneth due to the chamber.....  
£31. 12s. 2*d*.

#### CCCXLVI. *Letters on town business.*

Portfolio of Letters, No. 50. [Oct. 4, 1595.] Letter from the Privy Council, printed from the register in Dasent's Acts of the Privy Council, 1595—6, p. 7.

Ibid. No. 51. (Whereas the lords of the Privy Council wrote to the Earl bidding him restrain the graziers from using pease to feed their cattle and enjoined them to send them to market where the poor may buy them for food, the matter has been by him referred to the Justices who make it known. Only such sheep and swine as each man kills in his own house may eat pease.)

Ibid. No. 52. [Oct. 22, 1595.] The Earl of Huntingdon to Sir George Hastings<sup>2</sup> and Tho. Cave. Note, 22 Ap. 1596, this letter was delivered by Mr Yates Mayor to put on this file.

(Has received the letter of the Mayor and his Brethren) whereby they do informe me that when the campe was at Tilberie theie made forth fortie souldiers for that towne and delivered unto Sir Georg Villeurs, then the Captaine appointed, the some of £20, which their share he never imploied to anie use for them but still detaineth the same in his hands. Theie have intreated my lettres unto you either to be means unto Sir Geo. Villeurs to repaie the said £20 which as yet remeyneth in his custodie unanswered unto them or els to ease them so much otherwise in the charges of the fortie men which have now to be trained.

<sup>1</sup> tacks (small nails).

<sup>2</sup> The Earl's brother.

Ibid. No. 53. London, Nov. 19, 1595. Thomas Newerke<sup>1</sup> to the Mayor and Burgesses. Mr Rowe has asked him for the arrears of the fee farm. As it has grown "by diverse years past," he will take it at two payments, £26. 13s. 4d. at once, the rest in a year.

A. Tatam is in arrear for his last payment of the 37th year, which was refused without the town's arrears, because it grew out of that; £8. 10s. must also be sent.

Ibid. No. 54. [Nov. 21, 1595.] From J. Evelyn and Rob. Evelyn<sup>2</sup> to the Mayor and Brethren. Hearing of the continuance of the variance between Rob. Fosbrooke and Ralph and Will. Lowe saltpetremen touching their pretended interests as well of and in the deputation for the county and also for and about the workhouse late Foxe's in the town of Leicester, it should ere now have been ended by the arbitration of impartial viewers pricing the buildings. The Lowes ought to have paid Fosbrooke, and delay is to the hindrance of H. M.'s service. We have authorized Fosbrooke to work in Foxe's house for H. M.'s service.

Note of receipt of the letter Dec. 11, 1595.

### CCCXLVII. *The Brewers' Ordinal.*

Hall Book III, p. 118. [Nov. 21, 1595.] *Assise of Ale*, at this Common Hall, not agreed vpon, nor proclaymed.

*Assise of Candle*, at the said Common Hall not agreed vpon nor proclaimed.

*Brewers ordinall.* Att this Common Hall it was agreed that the ordynall for the common Brewars and Tiplers within this towne of Leicester, shalbee forthwith allowed and confirmed, and from henceforth to bee executed and putt in force, and theire is nowe appoynted to be the Master thereof, Mr Will<sup>m</sup> Noryce, and to bee the wardens thereof, Mr Thomas Clarke and Mr Ellyce. This was agreed vpon by a full voyce and consent, and non spake ageynste itt. And also itt is agreed that Mr Mayor and the Justices shall appoynte ii honeste men in everye warde to bee Ale Tasters etc.

(p. 119.) *Ale, no Assise.* Nota that the Hall was devyded for the assise of ale, wherevpon they whiche consented for the assise of ale att *iiiid.* the gallon vnder the syve, and stale ale att *vd.* the gallon, weare in number xxv<sup>ti</sup>. And they that wolde haue ale assised vnder the syve att *iiiid.* the gallon and stale ale att *iiiid.* the gallon, weere in number xxiii<sup>ti</sup>. So as by reason thereof, there was no assise geven etc. Therefore the common Bruers sold there ale after *iiiid.* the gallon vnder the sive etc.

<sup>1</sup> Receiver of the Duchy.

<sup>2</sup> Owners of the first gunpowder mills erected in England.

CCCXLVIII. *An Inventory.*

Hall Papers II, No. 317. [1596.] A note taken the xi — in the house of Henry Foster.

Inprimis ii loumes<sup>1</sup> xiid., i peal<sup>2</sup> iiid., ii piggyns<sup>3</sup> iiid.

Item i primer boucke<sup>4</sup> iid., i settell viiid., i brasse pott iiis.

Item v dishes iid., i skyuuar iid., i lantorne vid.

Item i sope barrell iid., i washyng tubbe iid.

Item i peyre of bellows viiid., ii sheres viiid.

Item i handbyll vid., i chappynge knyfe iid.

Item iii platters xviiid., i saucer iid., ii saltes iiiid.

Item iiiii spoones iid., iii drynkyng pottes iiiid.

Item i blocke id., i candellstyeke iiiid.

Item i brushe iid., i pere of sheres iid.

Item i syffe iiiid., i pere of scales iid.

Item i pere of rackes iid., i spytt iiiid.

Item i peyre of tonges iiiid., ii cushins viiid.

Item ii tables i forme xviiid., i counter xiid.

Item i flowar pott iid., ii stooles iid., i forme iid.

Item i ladell id., i pot lydd id., i pece of cloth viiid.

Item iii pere of shetes viis., iii shetes iiis., iii napkyns xiid.

Item ii handtowells vid., i shete fustyan xxd., i bonde hatt xxd.

Item i hatt iis., i durance apron<sup>5</sup> xxd., i fustyan wastecote xiid.

Item i pursse iiiid., i gyrdell, ii flaxe aprons xd.

Item ii kerchefes iiiid., iiiii pere of cuftes<sup>6</sup> viiid., ii calles<sup>7</sup> iiiid.

Item ii shyrtes iis., ii old baskettes iiiid., i handtowell iid.

Item i cloke iiis., i petycote vs., ii wastecotes xiid., womens hose vid.

Item i bolster xiid., i pyllow iiiid., ii old blanketets xiid.

Item i old kyverynge<sup>8</sup> iiiid., vi slyppyng<sup>9</sup> of yarne iiis.

Item ii weles<sup>10</sup> xd., ii farne bordes vd., i thele<sup>11</sup> viiid.

Item ii maundes<sup>12</sup> viiid., i partlydd<sup>13</sup> iid., xli. of woll vs.

Item ii beddstedes iis., i shuttell iid., i pyper pott id.

35s. 4d.

<sup>1</sup> ale-measures.

<sup>2</sup> a bread-peel.

<sup>3</sup> piggin=pail, Wright, *Dial. Dict.*

<sup>4</sup> a primer book.

<sup>5</sup> An apron made of "durance," a stout cloth, see *N. E. D.*

<sup>6</sup> cuftes=cuffs?

<sup>7</sup> calle=basket, cawl or caul=cap.

<sup>8</sup> kyvering=covering.

<sup>9</sup> slipping=skein.

<sup>10</sup> wele=wheel.

<sup>11</sup> thele=plank.

<sup>12</sup> maunde=market-basket, with two covers opening, for butter or eggs, etc.

<sup>13</sup> ? partlet, gorget.

CCCXLIX. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 119. [March 5, 1596.] *Lanes taken in.* It is agreed that all the common lanes or common places taken in either of late, or att anye tyme within remembrance of man, shalbee leyde open ageyne. And also that all the lanes that be straytoned shalbee enlarged agayne att or before Michaelmas next, and this to bee done by vi of the Auncientes of the XXIIII<sup>th</sup> and of the XLVIII<sup>th</sup>.

Nota the forkes or tymber mencioned in the accompt, sold for iiis. by Halpenye and Will<sup>m</sup> Stanley late Chamberlyns not agreed vnto.

(Commissioners appointed to examine accounts for the last four years.)

(After the usual entry concerning post-horses):—

And if theire horssees or any of them be absent, so as some others do serue in theire default, then they who make default to paye vnto hym that did then serue iiis. d. for euerye myle over and besides the Queenes wages etc.

Hall Papers II, No. 322. [March 30, 1596.] (Geo. Tatham to have the collection of the bailiwick and 10s. a year for his pains.)

Hall Book III, p. 120, and Hall Papers II, No. 327. [Ap. 21, 1596.] (Elkington is to be forced by legal measures to pay his debt.)

*Sir George Viliers, Knight.* Mr Ludlam and Richarde Burstall saye that Sir George Villers, Knight, at his retorne from London (when Mr Ludlam was Maior, and than Captayne for the soldiars for the towne and countie of Leycester) said to the said Mr Ludlam then Maior, that hee woulde repaye backe ageyne the xx*li*. which was paid to Mr Frances Beamountt by his appoyntment for the vse of the towne soldyars to bee paid them at London then goinge to Tilberie ageynst the Spaniardes, but were returned backe ageyne and discharged before they cam to London, by reason whereof the said xx*li*. not paid vnto them, but still remayneth in thandes of the said Sir George Viliers to the vse of the towne etc.

*Recordes or lettres.* Also it is ordered and agreed, that no Maior shall hereafter keepe in his custodie (after the yeere of his mayraltie expired) any Recordes of the townes, or anye lettres which doe concerne the Corporation—but the same to bee kepte att the Towne Hall emoungest the Recordes theire.

*Commissioners to sett and sell etc.* Also yt is further ordered and agreed that Mr Maior and his Chamberlyns, and also Mr Nixe, Mr Gyllott, Mr Rowes, Mr Mabbs, Mr Thomas Chettell, and Mr Thomas Manbye, or anye fyve of them, shall doe theire beste indeavor



to lett and sett by lease, or in fee farme, the Towne Landes and Fee Farme Landes (the Graunges only excepted).

[May 19, 1596.] *Christopher Sutton.* First at this Common Hall Christofer Sutton was put of from the company of the Eight and Fortie, and also disfraunchised because he ys not resident and dwelling within the libertie of this towne of Leicester<sup>1</sup> and refuzeth to paye all suche duties as a free man and one of the said companye ought to doe.

*Roberte Carter.* Also Robertt Carter likewise dismissed of the said companye of the XLVIII<sup>th</sup>, for that he refuzeth to come to the Common Halls and refuzeth to paye all suche duties as a freeman and one of the said Companye ought to doe, and therefore is also disfranchised.

*James Pawllmer.* Also James Pawllmer nowe released of and from the companye of the XLVIII<sup>th</sup>, for that he is goun oute of the said towne of Leicester to dwell and at Maye Daie last, yett maye, if hee will, contynue his freedom by the yeerely payment of xiid. at Maye Daye being demaunded, or else to loose his freedom.

*Taxacion for and towards the mendinge of Highe Wayes, etc.* Also it is agreed that the XXIII<sup>th</sup> shall paye iis. apeece, and the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> xiid. apeece towards the repayringe and amendinge of the wayes neyre the Northe Bridge and Abbye Gate, yf the waies in Braunstongate be likewise repayred and amended, and that collection shalbee made for the same emoungest the Commoners and inhabitants etc.

Hall Book III, p. 121. [July 3, 1596.] *Ex parte Hugonis Harrould.* (He was admitted through apprenticeship to the freedom, and now proposes to live at Kibworth. He may trade in Leicester on market and Fair days if he pays 2s. a year at two terms, in respect of "lott and scott.")

[Sep. 21, 1596<sup>2</sup>.] (p. 124.) *Pro Graungiis.* Memorandum that att this Common Hall there was a piticion exhibited vnto the Maiour and Recorder, and by the Recorder oppenlye readd, theeffect whereof was, that it might bee enacted, that the Graunges might not bee lett to any for any lenger tyme then duringe the Queenes Maiesties lease that is thereof nowe in beinge. The whiche petition Master Yates nowe Maior dothe keepe, and it is respited vntill some other tyme vicz. vntill the next Common Hall and to bee considered vpon etc.

[Sep. 29, 1596.] (p. 128.) *Watche.* Memorandum that yeerelic vppon Assention Even, the watche is to bee sommoned, and ys to

<sup>1</sup> See p. 319. He resided in the Bishop's Fee.

<sup>2</sup> And Hall Papers II, No. 339.

begyn vppon Assention Daye, and yeerelye vppon Assentions evens Even, the constables and third barowes are to bee sommoned by the Mace bearer to appeire before the Maior for their charge, etc.

[Oct. 31, 1596.] (p. 129.) (Ric. Stanford the elder, butcher, and Thos. Stanford his son delivered to the use of the Mayor and burgesses and their successors an obligation of £20 for the payment of £10 in ten years, which £10 was old Mr Stanford's legacy by his will to the school in Leicester and unpaid since his death; to be paid in instalments of 20s. at the dwelling house of the Mayor for the time being. The bond is in the study at the Town Hall.)

CCCL. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1595—6.] *Receipts, Rents* etc.....*Other receipts*.....of Thomas Warde the Stewarde for dockytt monye...oute of all the serjantes offices 30s. 10*d*.... a shovenet<sup>1</sup> (felon's goods)...bakers booke for fynes and amercyaments...Canmole money...

*Total*...£358. 19s. 10*d*.

*Payments...guiftes*...the Justices at the trayninge of the soldyars for the countie of Leicester sent into Ireland att whiche tyme the towne of Leicester was not charged with anye, in wyne and suger 7s. 2*d*.... to George Earle of Huntingdon in gold at his entringe into his Earledom £10....George Warde...geavon Sir Edw. Hastings and other of the Justices in Gaynesborowe Chamber sittinge there with Mr Mayor uppon the Councells lettres aboute corne...Queenes Maiesties playars more (etc.) 11s....touchinge our x*li*. due to the school which was denyed to bee paide<sup>2</sup>...Sir Henry Harrington Knight...Lorde Shandoes players whoe did not playe at the hall 5s. ...Earle of Shrewsburye...Earle of Worcesters playors 1 Aug. in rewarde whoe did not playe att the hall 6s. 8*d*....Sir E. Hastings and Mr Skevington sitting with Mr Maior aboute corne 1s. 6*d*..... £17. 16s. 8*d*.

*Reparacions*...the cawsie beyounde the Antilopp brigge...theales and for lounge neyles used aboute the dungell<sup>3</sup> att the olde hall... plaster florthe att the schoole howsse...£4. 5s.

*Fees*...Harrice Morice for his paynes beinge clarke to the xii men appoynted to sertche for corne accordinge to the Councells orders... suite in the spirituall courte before Mr Docter Chippingdale<sup>4</sup> againste

<sup>1</sup> a fishing-net? Cf. drag-net. Shrimpers use a net that they shove before them.

<sup>2</sup> The Stanford legacy, see above.

<sup>3</sup> dungell = dungeon.

<sup>4</sup> See above, p. 197.

Ric. Stanforde thelder about *xli.* geaven by his father toward the repayinge of the schoolehowsse...looking to cutpurces on Pawlme Sondaye even...lookinge for weaves and streaves<sup>1</sup> the same day... (suits of law for debts due to and from the town)...lookinge to the corne wall for Trawntors<sup>2</sup> and Ingrossers of corne...to carte ii badde women aboute the towne...

...Total £340. 1s. 10½*d.*...to the towne...£18. 18s. 5½*d.*

#### CCCLI. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 130. [Nov. 19, 1596.] (*Assize of Ale.*) Ale under the sive assised at *vd.* the gallon and good smawle and hollsome drincke for the poore called penny drincke at *1d.* the gallon etc.

(*Swans.*) Mr William Morton Maior of Leicester hath bought for the use of the Mayor and Burgesses of the same Towne...one pen swanne which is cupled with a swanne of Mr Thomas Clark's, and now being marked with this marke (X) having one cutt on the side of the beake. The note whereof remeyneth vppon the file for this yeere of Mr Morton Maior with a marke thereof like unto a sincke foile etc.

Note that Hughe Marshall then the Chamberlyn would not paye for the said swanne and therefore the recorde discharged etc.

Hall Papers II, No. 364. [Dec. 9, 1596.] (Only 26 of the two companies being present the meeting could not be held.)

Hall Book III, p. 131. [Jan. 21, 1597.] (*Tole of horssees.*) It is agreed that John Clarke shall have a lease of the Tole of horssees for one and twentie yeeres from Michaellmas (1599) payinge viii*li.* for a fyne, and *xxs.* rent per annum. The fyne to be present payd vppon the sealinge and delyverie of the said lease.

*Tatam et Clark.* Mr Thomas Clarke saithe that the bargayne betwixt the towne and Mr George Tatam and him was absolutelye agreed vppon in Mr Heyrickes Mayraltie that the overplus of the money of their bargayne shall remayne to the towne, havinge their bargayne accordinge to the said order.

*Moseley et Clark*<sup>3</sup>. Memorandum that at this Common Hawle it was agreed to lend vnto the wief of Thomas Clarke, shoemaker, (in respect shee doth keepe manye poore children in worke in knyttinge of jersye) *xxli.* for a yeere, vpon Mr Robertt Heyrickes bond, whereof Hughe Marshall hath offered to lend *xli.* thereof, so the towne will beyre the interest thereof. This order or agreement did not stand

<sup>1</sup> waifs and strays.

<sup>2</sup> pedlars.

<sup>3</sup> Hall Papers II, No. 373.

or take effect, for that Thomas Moseley by suit to the Erle of Huntingdon (as Chamberlyn Marshall hathe affirmed to Mr Maior) hathe obteyned *xli.* thereof. The said Hughe Marshall hathe paid of his owne monye to the said Moseley, the towne to paye the interest thereof, and Clarkes wief thereby had but onlye *xli.* of the towne, the aforesaid *viii.li.* received of John Clarke beinge parcell etc.

CCCLII. *Examinations before the Justices*<sup>1</sup>.

Hall Papers II, No. 296. [Dec. 24, 1595.] (Thos. Ward bound over. He had said to Mr Belgrave "setting your birth aside, I am good as you," and Geo. Belgrave refuses to be bound generally but within the liberty only and therefore committed to the Bailiff.)

Hall Papers II, No. 377. [March 19, 1597.] The sayinges of Izabell Wheateley servantt to Thomas Manbye of the towne of Leicester, mercer, saythe that one Fawstyne Moone late servante to Thomas Chettell of the said towne, woollen draper, said vnto her that yf her mistris did bewraye him hee woulde tell suche a tale of her as shoulde cause her to be eyther hanged, burned or carted, and that hee and his brother woulde spend all that they hadd but that she shoulde bee carted.

William Morton, Maior.

CCCLIII. *Letter from Richard Archer.*

Hall Papers II, No. 381. [March 22, 1597.] To the worshipfull Mr Maior of the towne of Leicester and his bretheren and the XLVIII my loving frendes and fellowes.

Humbly sheweth to your worship and the rest that as well in performance of my dutye towards this towne whereof I am a poore member and have beene aboue xxx yeres, as in dischargd and ease of my troubled conscience which moveth me thereto, I am very sorry that my occasions are so great that I cannot attend this place at this tyme myself but to make that knowne to you by writing which I wilbe ready at any time hereafter to avow. So it is that there will presently ensue a losse of *xxx.li.* yerelie to this towne if speddy redresse be not by your good wisdomes had and provided for the same. Also

<sup>1</sup> In Hall Papers II, No. 274, is the Mayor's letter to the Earl of Huntingdon, March 3, 1597, on Will. Hollinshed's committal pending sureties for his action. As the town has now agreed with him, shall he be released?

I know and I suppose it is knowne to this whole assembly (with grieve may I speake it) that this towne is greatly indetted and that there remayneth a somme of money due to this towne in some mens handes as will dischardg the same (if it with your good likinges may stand) to call them to an account. If these may be done all controversies concerning the towne may be ended, Her Maiesties most gracious and princely guift, the honorable commenders thereof and the pore and the whole towne not abused, I rest satisfiied and haue no further cause of complaint; which if they be not regarded but neglected I shall haue cause and will complayne where remedye may be had, though I am altogether vnwilling so to doe. This I wilbe ready to declare and let you vnderstand when you or any such as shalbe appointed for the same shall appoint me to attend them at their convenient leysure. And so with hartie prayers to God for you all and all your counsellis and meetings that they tend to the glory of Gods benefitt of this towne and reliefe of the poore I most humbly crave pardon.

Richard Archer.

CCCLIV. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 131. [March 30, 1597.] *Whatten.* A common muckell place. Itt is nowe agreed and ordered that Mr Will<sup>m</sup> Norice, Mr George Tatam and Mr Thomas Clarke shall repaye backe ageyne vnto William Whatten all the moneye he paid vnto them for the common muckell place neire the West Gate, and the same to bee leyde open ageyne, and from henceforthe to be vsed for a common muckell etc.

Nota that the shoppes in the Sayturday Market within Shingleton's lease bee reformed by Mr Maior etc.

*A lane agreed to bee inclosed.* Also itt is agreed that the lane neire the Cowe Lane leadinge into Burges Meadowe, shalbee from henceforth inclosed and two stiles at either ende to bee sett for foote folkes to passe and to bee made and kept at the charges of the tenauntes of closes on either side. And they also to keepe open the common dreynes at there costes and charges etc.

*George Tatam. Henrye Halpenye.* Item the bargayne heretofore made with Mr George Tatam for the fee farme of the housse in the occupacion of John White, cobler, ys nowe released by him to the towne, and is sould to Henrye Halpenye for vii*li*. and vis. viii*d*. rent per annum.

A newe Hall appoynted, vppon Fridaye cum seynitt viz. the viii<sup>th</sup> daye of Aprill next, by reason of a suplicacion exhibited at this present by Richard Burstall, from Rychard Archer etc.

[April 8, 1597.] (p. 132.) Richard Archer's petition read, as to £30. He desired to answer the same privately to four or five of the wisest and discreetest viz. the Mayor and Recorder, Mr James Clark, Mr Gillot, Mr Rows and Mr Thos. Chettel and four others named and one of the chamberlains, and Ric. Archer to be one of them to inform them at their meeting. And as touching the second point of his petition viz. the town's debt, he says touching the Commissioners' accounts they are not finished, and desires they may be finished at the meeting above named. He requests three persons named to make their account of the £20 a year for the paying of the £600 of the town's debt, that the overplus thereof may come to the town's use.

*Assisa †servicia†.* Ale or beare stale not to bee solde aboue vid. the gallon, howe strounge or headye of the maulte so euer the same bee, vppon payne of xs. for euery defaulte, and so after that rate by the quarte and pinte, on the like payne, etc.

(*Town's debt.*) Towching the townes debt, howe the same shalbee paide, theire hathe beene nowe mutche talke abowte the same, but nothinge therein as yett done nor no order takyn for the same.

[Ap. 22, 1597.] *Commissioners etc.* Att this Common Haule theire is chosen and appoynted to joyne with Mr Maior and his chamberlyns in lettinge and settinge by lease for terme of xxi<sup>ti</sup> yeeres, or for sellinge in fee farme or in fee symple any of the townes landes the<sup>1</sup> hold either in fee farme or in fee simple, theise parsons whose names doe followe, viz. of the xxiiii<sup>ti</sup> Mr Will<sup>m</sup> Morton, Maior, Mr Will<sup>m</sup> Ludlam, Mr Raphe Chettell, Mr Thomas Nixe and Mr Thomas Manbye, and of the xlviii<sup>ti</sup> Hughe Marshall and Henrye Wormell, Chamberlyns, John Bonnett and James Andrewes, for the payinge of the townes debte (the Graunges and the tithe of St Maries close, allwayes excepted oute of theire commission). All bargaynes made by them, or the greater parte of them (except before excepted), to be firme and stable, beinge made before Micheallmas next, and theire auctorithy (for theise cawses) to stand vntill Michaelmas next, and no lenger, etc.

#### CCCLV. *Suppression of Ale Houses.*

Hall Papers II, No. 402. [Ap. 23, 1597.] (*The Justices of Assize to the Justices of the Peace in Leicester.*) After our hartie commendacions, her Maiestie haucinge eftsoones by the Lord Keeper

<sup>1</sup> the = they.

geauen expresse commandements vnto vs to take order that the vnnessarie number of alehowses might be vtterlie suppressed and that non henceforth be suffered to contynue but such a number as shall be verie needfull and well ordered to auoide the greate excesse and wast that hath bene vsed in theise places, wherebie the wantes have growen more then otherwise shoulde have needed: These are therefore in discharge of oure duties to require yowe to certefie vnto vs trulie the firste weeke of the nexte terme howe manye ale howsses are att this presente standinge in euerye place within your seuerall diuisions and in what place and howe manye are newelie sett vp of the alehowses that were formerlie suppressed, or others, and by whome, and howe manye in everie place you shall nowe thincke fitt to stande and contynue, to the ende that we maye therevppon accordinge to hir Maiesties good pleasure take suche order therein as shall be fitt and requisitt. Whereof wee require you in anye wise as you tender her Maiesties expresse pleasure, not to faile. And where there is anie towne corporate within your countie, which have Justices of peace, within themselves and the Justices of peace of the countie, exempt from entermedlinge therein, theise are to require yowe to sende vnto them a copie of theise letters requiringe them to make the like certifficate vnto vs by that tyme, to the ende the like proceedinge maie be hadde in those places as in the rest of the countie. And with all wee are to putt yowe in remembraunce that yowe be industrious not onlie in this, butt in all other her Maiesties service wherein you are to deale concerninge the peace and quiett of that countrie, wherebie her Maiesties service in that behalfe maie bee the better performedd, and that there be noe cause to finde faulte with anie of youre slacknesses, and our selves freed from anie negligence that maie in that behalfe bee imported vnto vs. And yf anie of yowe shall be found negligent in the services, wee are required to give notice thereof vnto the lord Keeper, wherebie hee maie take order there vppon that soche a justice so neglectinge his dutie might be remoaved oute of the commission of the peace. And even so we bidde you hartelic farewell from Seriauntes Inne; this xxiii<sup>th</sup> of Aprill 1597.

Your lovinge frendes,

Ed. Anderson.

Jo. Clenche.

Portfolio of Letters, No. 55. [Aug. 27, 1597.] Letter from the Privy Council to the Sheriff of Leicestershire with instructions concerning the return of suitable members to parliament. In full in Dasent's *Privy Council* 1597, p. 361.

CCCLVI. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 133. [June 19, 1597.] Sunday after evening prayer, a meeting of certain of the xxiiii<sup>ti</sup> touching the choice of a Mayor's brother in the stead of Mr John Tatam deceased.

List of the persons who voted for Thos. Chapman.

He is made a free burgess and one of the 48 and fines for the Chamberlainship and is made a Mayor's brother, and "sett on the bentche in the open Courte."

[Sep. 4, 1597.] (p. 134.) xlii. *Symon Mudd.* Hitt is agreed to take vppe the fortie pownde of Symon Mudd, and to make him a good and parfitt assureaunce of annuitie of foure powndes by yeere for fortie yeeres from Micheallmas next. The same annuitie to bee graunted oute of the messuage or tenement and two yard lande and wynde mylne with the appurtenaunces which the Maior and Burgesses lately purchased of one Will<sup>m</sup> Wightman, gentleman, and also oute of all other the landes and tenements of the said Maior and Burgesses. And to bee paide att twoe feastes of the yeere, the firste payment thereof to be, begyn and bee made at the Annunciacion of the blessed Virgyn Marie next commynge, etc.

*The said 40li. to be yeerely putt owte etc.* Also ytt is further agreed that the said xlii. so to be taken vppe as aforesaid, shall not bee ymployed for and towards the payment of anye of the townes debtes. But shall bee putt forth the agen to iiij or vi townesmen, vpon good suerties, from yeere to yeere for and duringe the said xl<sup>ti</sup> yeeres, and vpon the like intereste, etc.

[Sep. 17, 1597.] (Sheriff's precept for election of burgesses of parliament for parliament Oct. 24.)

CCCLVII. *Inventory of Will. Hobby's goods.*

Box 5 A, No. 8. [Sep. 19, 1597.] *Things in y<sup>e</sup> Hall.* Imprimis two framed tables, a forme, 3 chaires, one ioyned stooles<sup>1</sup>, with 4 other stooles, with a parcell of sieling<sup>2</sup> ouer the benche and the hanginges with 3 portall doores<sup>3</sup>, xxiiiis.

Item two andyrons, 8 hookes for the pot, a paier of bellows, a paire of tables, a quiver with 7 shaftes, viis.

Item a jack, a head piece, a paire of arme harnesse, a bow, and an

<sup>1</sup> joint-stool, a stool made by a joiner, see *New Eng. Dict.* or ? a folding-stool.

<sup>2</sup> covering.

<sup>3</sup> door curtains?



hammer to ryde<sup>1</sup> with, and a beame and skoales<sup>2</sup>, 2 half stones of lead, vs.

Item a forme with other small implementes, xiiid.

*Things in y<sup>e</sup> Parlour.* Imprimis a counter table<sup>3</sup>, 2 cupboardes, 4 coffers, 2 formes, 3 shelves, xiiiis.

Item one fetherbed with a bedstead, one coverlet, a paire of blancketes, one old blanket, 2 bolsters, one pillow, with greene hanginges, and a paynted clothe, with the other paynted clothes, xxvis. viiid.

Item a lanthorne and certayne slippinges<sup>4</sup> of yarne, 4 skinnes, iiis.

Item 2 settles, 2 boardes in y<sup>e</sup> little cellar with certayne boardes over the same, iis. vid.

Item a bason and an ewre, 9 plattes, 14 peuter dishes, 6 pottingers<sup>5</sup>, 6 sawcers, 3 pewter salt sellers, 3 pewter pottes, one pewter cuppe, 5 brasse candlestickes, two peuter chamber pottes, xxiiis.

Item an old bed with the appurtenaunces, xxiiid.

Item odde implementes in the cupboardes, iiid.

Item 2 paires of old harden<sup>6</sup> sheetes, with 3 hempe towels, iis.

Item 2 midling table cloathes, iis.

Item 2 paires of flaxen sheetes, xs.

Item a flaxen towell, xiid.

Item 5 harden sheetes, vs.

Item 4 pillow beares<sup>7</sup> 2 harden 2 flaxen, iis.

Item a dossen of midling table napkins, iiis.

Item 13 spoones, xiid.

Item 5 shelves, 2 settles, 3 loomes with other implementes here and there, iis. vid.

*Things in the chamber over the hall.* Imprimis two fetherbedds with bedsteades, one mattresse, 4 blancketes, 4 coverletes, 2 bolsters, 2 pillowes with 2 painted testars<sup>8</sup> with all y<sup>e</sup> furniture in y<sup>e</sup> same chamber, xls.

Item a trundle bedstead, and 2 coffers with other small implementes, iiis.

*Implementes in y<sup>e</sup> chamber over the parlour.* Imprimis 2 bedsteades, 2 mattresses, 2 coverletes, with other thinges belonging, viiis.

*Things in y<sup>e</sup> bolting<sup>9</sup> chamber.* Item a bedstead, an old chest, a bolting tubbe<sup>10</sup>, a stick, 2 sithes<sup>11</sup>, with other trumperye, vs.

<sup>1</sup> for a cavalryman?

<sup>2</sup> weighing machine and weights.

<sup>3</sup> marked in squares for counting.

<sup>4</sup> skeins.

<sup>5</sup> porringers, pots.

<sup>6</sup> made of the 'hards' of flax.

<sup>7</sup> pillow cases.

<sup>8</sup> headpieces to beds, from which curtains hang.

<sup>9</sup> sifting.

<sup>10</sup> bran-tub.

<sup>11</sup> scythes.

*Things in y<sup>e</sup> kitchen.* Imprimis a mashe fat<sup>1</sup>, a powdring tubbe, a trouge, a woort fatte<sup>2</sup>, a brewing loome<sup>3</sup>, 3 pailles, a cherne, with other wooden stuff, xs.

Item 3 brasse pannes, two brasse kettels, 2 little caldrons, 6 brasse pottes, a chaifferne<sup>4</sup>, a chafing dishe, a postnet<sup>5</sup>, 2 frying pannes, a dripping panne, a gredyron, 2 paires of pothookes, 3 spittes, a paire of cobyrons<sup>6</sup>, xls.

*Implementes in y<sup>e</sup> shoppe.* Item 2 blocke sawes, a whipsaw, 7 axes, 3 hatchetes, 3 adzes, 6 beerezees<sup>7</sup>, one great hammer, 2 little ones, 2 paire of pinsers, an yron dogge, with 4 spookeshaeves<sup>8</sup>, 21 augers, and other trincketes<sup>9</sup>, xxxiiis. iiid.

Item a gryndle stone, iiis. iiid.

*Things in y<sup>e</sup> yard.* Imprimis seaven skore tryne<sup>10</sup> of hewen fellies<sup>11</sup>, xxiii*l*.

Item fortie kibbles<sup>12</sup> and xx<sup>tie</sup> fellies hewed and vnhewed, viiis.

Item lx tryne of spokes, vii*l*. xs. Item 9 tryne of course spokes ashe and oak, xs. Item vi dossen of axeltrees, xvs. Item lx paires of nathes<sup>13</sup> and one olive tree, ix*l*. Item the hovel with the faggotes, swynestytes and long wood in the yard, xxxs.

Item laths and longe wood in y<sup>e</sup> old shop, iiis.

Item planckes and boardes in y<sup>e</sup> stable and yard, xxs.

Item boardes, spades, a wheele, and other thinges in the chippe chamber, vs.

Item overlyers, planckes, cratches<sup>14</sup> and mangers with all other endes in bothe y<sup>e</sup> stables and thoroughe out y<sup>e</sup> yard, xs.

*In y<sup>e</sup> street.* Certayne pieces of wood in the street, viiis.

Item 2 paires of wheelles and a carte body, xxiiiis.

Item fortie pieces of sawen tymber and 4 paires of cart thilles<sup>15</sup>, xxxs.

Item wood at the Holy Bones, vis. viiid.

Item wood at Ratliffe in y<sup>e</sup> Wreake, xxs.

Item a tree at Keame<sup>16</sup>, vis.

Item five score tryne of fellies lying at Coldorton, xii*l*.

Item old stokes in y<sup>e</sup> hall, vis. viiid.

*At the Grange.* Item 4 horses, iii*l*. xs. Item 2 kyne, ls.

<sup>1</sup> brewer's mash-vat.

<sup>2</sup> brewer's wort-vat.

<sup>3</sup> vessel, utensil.

<sup>4</sup> vessel for heating something.

<sup>5</sup> posnet, pot.

<sup>6</sup> iron to support a spit.

<sup>7</sup> some sort of adze.

<sup>8</sup> spokeshaves, a kind of plane used for shaping fellies. W. H. S.

<sup>9</sup> things of small value.

<sup>10</sup> a trine of fellies = 13, of spokes 25. Halliwell, *Dict.*

<sup>11</sup> curved rims for wheels.

<sup>12</sup> hooked sticks.

<sup>13</sup> part of a wheel.

<sup>14</sup> cribs for hay.

<sup>15</sup> shafts, still called 'thills' (Germ. *Deichsel*, O.E. *þixl* etc.); the *Disselboom* of the Boers is a 'pole.' W. H. S.

<sup>16</sup> Keyham.

Item in the roome in the Grange barne barley worthe *xxli*.

Item an hovell of peason together with the hovell, *vili. xiiis. iiiid.*

Item oates in y<sup>e</sup> kitchin in y<sup>e</sup> Grange, *xs.*

Item 2 cartes yron bound, *ls.*

Item a plow with plow yrons, horse gears, and other implementes belonging to husbandry, *xs.*

Item xii iages<sup>1</sup> of hey, *iiii*l*i.*

Item the lease of the howse, *xls.*

Item his apparell, *xls.*

*Summa totalis Cxxli. viiis. iid.*

### CCCLVIII. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1596—7.] *Reccipts...Rents...*a streyve lambe...for the skynns of twoe other sheepe streved which were kilde and geavon to the poore by the appoyntment of Mr Nixe maior which were supposed to bee rotten *2s. 6d.*...Canmole money...amercyaments in the courte *8d.*...the late wyfe of Marke Dakin, butcher, decessed, for a fyne for the goods of the saide M. D. whoe was a fellow of him selfe, or did perysh him selfe *20s.*<sup>2</sup>

*Totall £251. 8s. 6d.*

*...Fees...*Pursivant that broughte proclamacions for apparrell... Earle of Darbye his playars more (etc.) *20s.*...Earle of Huntingdons players more (etc.) *19s. 4d.*...Queenes majesties players more (etc.) *30s.*...horsse hier...to Mr Recorder aboute the answeringe of a lettre latelie before sent from the Earle of Huntingdon to the Maior...of a complaynte to hym made againste the towne...Roger Halfitt for the writinge vearie faior of the said lettre *12d.*...the charges of meate and drinke of oulde mother Cooke beinge kepte in the hall fyve daies att the suite of Mr Edw. Saunders uppon suspesion of witchrye, whoe was afterwards remoaved to the Countrie gaole, and was for the same arrayned, condempned and hanged *2s. 6d.*...for takinge upp for the use of the towne a sworde of a fellow suspected and fledd, for his paynes *2d.*...lent unto Thomas Clarke shomaker and his wyfe, for a yeere, for the better settinge on worke (in knytinge<sup>3</sup>) poore children of the towne *£10.* (another for the same)...*£127. 13s.*

<sup>1</sup> jag = small load. *Dial. Dict.*

<sup>2</sup> The fine was in lieu of the forfeiture of the suicide's goods.

<sup>3</sup> The next account calls it "spinnynge and knytinge of Jersey."

*Reparacions*...the wynde mylne...mendinge the hubbe or backe of the chymney in the kitchen att the hall...chamber over the spice howsse att the hall...

*Total* £227. 14s. 6d....

Loste by a Flemyshe Angell received of Mr Chettell in the hundred pounce for Mr Ellcocke 2s. 6d.

CCCLIX. *Election of Burgesses of Parliament.*

Hall Book III, p. 136. [Sep. 21, 1597.] Att a common haule... before Will. Morton Maior of the towne...Richard Parkyns esq. recorder...and others of the XXIII<sup>th</sup> and XLVII<sup>th</sup> agreed upon as followeth, etc. viz....by a full consent of the mooste now assembled that Mr Geo. Parkyns sonne and heire apparant of the said Mr Parkyns Recorder and also Mr John Stanford the younger sonne and heire apparant of Mr John Stanford tholder shalbee the burgesses for this towne...of the parliament...and they to beare their owne charges.

Portfolio of Letters, No. 56<sup>1</sup>. Oct. 5 [1597]. (George Earl of Huntingdon to the Mayor.) Mr Mayre, I holde my selfe very hardly dealt with by your former Mayre and all your Corporacion to accept<sup>2</sup> of my prefarment of Mr Thomas Beawmont to be wone of your burgases<sup>3</sup>, and bothe to beayre me and hym in hande of the good lykinge you had of my offer and hys execusion of the same, untill the laste instante of your choyse, wherein you playde an unsemly payen<sup>4</sup> yf to any meanar then myselffe, muche more to me, to whosse aunsetors and myselfe you have bin bounde as you kno. I w[r]yght not thys in regarde that I wolde be a plasar<sup>5</sup> of burgeses for I nevar before w[r]ytt to anny [for] plase for anny, nethar now wold have done, but knoinge thys gentyllman bothe a suffityent person and wyllinge to do Hyr Majestie, hys cuntry and your towne sarvys, was the cause of my w[r]yttinge. And your Recorder, who hathe thus crossed yt, I thinke you shall fynde hav shoed smalle love to you in yt and to my selfe non at all, besyedes by your choyse hyr Maiesties commandments<sup>6</sup> ys no way performed; yt may be you wolbe bettar

<sup>1</sup> Ibid. No. 54 B is a letter from Sir Edw. Hastings to the Mayor, July 2, 1597, stating that it would be well to commit W. Berrye to safe custody; the writer will explain the cause on the morrow. Security for him must be taken.

<sup>2</sup> take exception to.

<sup>3</sup> i.e. burgesses of parliament.

<sup>4</sup> sic ? for part or game.

<sup>5</sup> placer.

<sup>6</sup> See p. 331.

advysed; yf not, as I have alreddy aquinted my Lorde Kepere, my intent shalbe know[n]<sup>1</sup> y<sup>at</sup> I dyd and how you hav ussed yt.

Dunn[ington]<sup>1</sup> Parke. 5 Oct.

Your frende,

George Huntingdon.

Hall Papers II, No. 430. [Oct. 5, 1597.] Letter from the Mayor to the Earl, promising to attend to his letter.

Ibid. No. 431. [Oct. 7, 1597.] From the Mayor, Recorder and others to the same, explaining the circumstances under which the election of the two burgesses was made, and that due formalities were observed, and the Earl's desire for the choice of T. Beaumont made known and urged by the Recorder. The Company refused to elect him because he was an "incloser" himself and unlikely to redress that wrong in others. Though the Earl received a letter agreeing to his nomination it cannot have been written by the town clerk who alone is authorized to write the letters of the Mayor and brethren. It was Mr Morton who proposed G. Parkins's election. (In full in Thompson's *Leicester*, pp. 300—1.)

### CCCLX. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 142<sup>2</sup>. [Oct. 21, 1597.] Whereas Aug. 9, 1597 Mr Geo. Tatam and Mr Thos. Clarke on oath made their account as commissioners (of the 20 pound lands<sup>3</sup>) and £8. 4s. 4d. was found due to the town, they are to pay this sum to the Mayor and Chamberlains and the unsold land is to be delivered to the Corporation, with the obligation by which the Mayor and burgesses stand bound to the two commissioners in £1200, and the commissioners to have a general release concerning the book of £20. 2s. 8d. a year, and to give a like release to the Mayor and burgesses.

Commissioners appointed to hear and determine all other accounts of the former commissioners.

*No Maior to receive any of the townes monye but onelie the Chamberlyns*<sup>4</sup>. Also it is agreed that neither Mr Maior that nowe is, nor no other Maior hereafter shall receyve anye of the townes money, but the Chamberlyns onelie, who shall yeerelie make theire accompt thereof emongest theire other accomptes, att the tyme accustomed, etc.

Also itt is agreed that euery Alderman within his warde shall appoynte his constable to commaunde that two or one att the leaste of euerye howsehold, shall freiquent and come to the sermondes weekelie vpon payne of *vid.* for everie defaulte, and that the former actes for comynge to the sermondes made<sup>5</sup> shall bee from hence-forthe putt in execution.

<sup>1</sup> torn.

<sup>2</sup> Also in Hall Papers II, No. 435.

<sup>3</sup> The account is on p. 144 of the Hall Book, with a list of debts to the town, and a mention of a lease of some part of the town wall and ditch. Also in Hall Papers II, No. 440.

<sup>4</sup> Also in Hall Papers II, No. 435.

<sup>5</sup> See p. 162.

*The Stwardes of the Fayors to make their accompte yeerely to the Maior.* Also it is agreed that the Stwardes of the Fayors shall yeerely make their accompte to the Maior for the tyme beinge and the overplus shall yeerely paye to the Chamberlyns, to the vse of the towne.

*The Maiors yeerely to answeere the overplus of the xv<sup>ens</sup> and post horsse monye.* Also it is agreed that the Maiors shall yeerely hereafter answeere the overplus of the xv<sup>ens</sup>, and post horsse money to the towne, yf there bee any, etc.

Also it is further agreed that the sergiantes shalbee called to accompte for the fynes, amerciamentes<sup>2</sup>, dockytt money and canmole money, etc. and to paye the same to the Chamberlyns to the vse of the towne.

(p. 144.) Also remember that Mr Robertt Pilkington be talked with all for certen layes in the Horsse Faier parcell of Mr Shingletons lease whiche hath passed in his booke of Fee farme from the towne more then was solde him.

*(The Beast Market in Cow Lane, Cank Street and Loseby Lane.)* Also it is nowe agreed that the beaste markett shall from henceforth be kept in the lane called the Cowe Lane, Cancke Streete and Losebye Lane, and [not] to be any more hereafter kept in the Sayturdaie markett after Sayturdaye next commynge beinge the xix<sup>th</sup> of this present monethe of Novembre 1597.

Also it is agreed that the Alderman of euerye warde shall take order that one or two of euerye howshold in his warde shall resorte to the sermondres on the Fridaies and other daies in the weeke, and they that after notice geuen vnto them, do make defaulte therein, then being in the towne, withoute a lawfull cause to be allowed by the Maior or Alderman, to forfitt to the vse of the poore *iiii*d.

Also it is agreed, that the former Actes for Inmates<sup>4</sup> shalbee put in execution.

Also it is nowe further agreed that John Vnderwood the mace-bearer shall haue euerye thirde yeere a gowne clothe geuen vnto him by the towne, and to haue one this yeere, att or before Whitsondaye.

And lastely it is agreed that no estraunger of any trade or occupacion whatsoeuer shall att any tyme hereafter bee made free of this towne vnder fyve poundes, nor suffred to vse his trade there before he bee free, etc.

<sup>1</sup> The subsidy rolls for 1597 and 1602 are in Box 6 A.

<sup>2</sup> In Box 11 A, No. 6, is a receipt of £10 as the rent of the borough courts for the use of Henry de la Bere, Oct. 16, 1597.

<sup>3</sup> Also in Hall Papers II, No. 439.

<sup>4</sup> Cp. p. 102, etc.

CCCLXI. *The Stewardship.*

Box 2 A, No. 886. [Nov. 28, 1597.] Latin letters patent of Elizabeth. Whereas by letters patent under the duchy seal of June 21, 1591 we have granted to Sir Edward Hastings the office of Steward of our town of Leicester otherwise called *the town clarke*, to hold during pleasure, and to enjoy the fees and emoluments of that office from the issues and profits of the honor of Leicester, as did lately the lord of Loughborough<sup>1</sup>, or Henry Earl of Huntingdon or any other; and whereas Sir Edward restored the letters to the court to be cancelled, with the intention that others should be drafted for the convenience of the Mayor and burgesses, we have granted to the Mayor of Leicester for the time being the office of Steward, called the office of *towne clarke*, to have it on the same terms as the above, provided he will keep a second copy of the court-rolls of the town of Leicester and deposit it in the Duchy Court at Westminster, and provided that these letters will not be valid if not enrolled before the Auditor within a year. Record of enrolment before the Auditor Oct. 9, 1598. (Duchy seal.)

CCCLXII. *Poachers and the Liberty's franchise.*

Portfolio of Letters, No. 58. [Dec. 23, 1597.] Francis Beaumont to the Mayor. He hears that some of the town in very disorderly manner offend against Sir John Gray's<sup>2</sup> conies and have stolen some ferrets. He was told to apply to the Mayor to send them to Gracedieu that he might examine them, and he hears the mayor has refused. He marvels, and names a day for them to come. "Although you have authority by your charter to punyshe dyverse sorts of offences comynytted within your liberties, yett this being an offence committed out of your liberties you are not to deale with all, but the examinacion and punishmente therof belongeth unto anie of the Justices of peace of this county....Do not in protectinge of anie suche malefactors abuse your liberties and soe bringe them in hazard." If they doubt him, they may ask their Recorder.

Ibid. No. 59. [Dec. 28, 1597.] Thomas Nixe, Mayor, to Mr Justice Beaumont Judge of Common Pleas.

Has received Beaumont's letter on certain coney stealers. Has bound them over when within the liberty, although the deed was done out of the liberty. Asks for a warrant to apprehend these "hunters" or these lewd fellows will become froward and bring their action for the conveying them out of the liberty where he has no authority.

CCCLXIII. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 145. [March 13, 1598.] (Commissioners appointed from the 24 and 48 to survey town lands, and let and sell them.)

<sup>1</sup> Edw. Hastings, Lord Hastings of Loughborough, d. 1573.

<sup>2</sup> Sir John Gray writes to the Mayor, Portfolio of Letters, No. 57, Dec. 20 (1597), saying that he has seen Judge Beaumont and wishes him to examine the trespassers. He will send his man to give evidence.

(*Survey.*) Itt ys agreed that theise aboue named, or the greater parte of them shall not onlie survey the towne lande and the fee farme lande, butt also to sell, sett and lett the same or any parte thereof, the Graunges, savinge the Beade-howsse meadowe, the sheepe pennes, the shambles and draprie, and the Towne Halls, allwayes excepted and reserved oute of this theire auctoritie, no lease to extend aboue xxi yeeres.

(*Profits of the Court.*) Also at this Common Haule there is lett to Bartholomew Myddlton for one yeere from the xxv<sup>th</sup> daie of Marche next commynge, all fines and amerciamentes, felons goodes, wayves, and streyves, dockitt money, and canmole money happeninge within the towne of Leicester and subbarbs thereof (all felons goodes and felons de sea and deodandes and owtelawes happeninge within the said towne and subbarbs thereof, of any the inhabitants of the said towne, alwayes excepted and reserved unto the Mayor and burgesses of the said towne of Leicester). The said Bartholomew or his assignes yeldinge and payinge vnto the said Maior and Burgesses for the same, vppon Michaellmas daie next to the nowe Chamberlyns of the said towne viii*li*. of lafull Englishe money, and to enter into bonde with one suertie for the payment thereof.

All whiche fynes and amerciamentes to bee yeerelie taxed by the Maior and Justices of Peace of the said towne or the more parte of them. Prouided allwaies that it shalbee lafull for the Mayor for the tyme beinge to geve away bakers breade (if there be suche defaulte, to procure the same)<sup>1</sup> as they haue done before tyme. Bartholomewe Myddleton and Hughe Marshall to be bounde in xvi*li*. for the payment of the said viii*li*. vppon Michaellmas daie next commynge.

[March 30, 1598.] (*Lease*<sup>2</sup>.) Hit is ordered by vs, that Thomas Jesson, clarke, mynyster of St Nicholas in Leicester, shall haue a lease of a gardyn neire vnto the Vicaridge of St Nicholas...sometyme belonginge to Corpus Christi Guilde (etc.).

Hall Book III, p. 146, and Portfolio of Letters, No. 60. Ap. 29, 1598. Letter from George Earl of Huntingdon, Lord Lieutenant, reporting the Council's request for a levy of forces. Instead of the old contribution of 40 men, *i.e.* 12 armed with calivers, 4 with muskets, 11 with bows and arrows and 8 with corselets and pikes, now bows, arrows and bills are refused, and muskets needed. The forty must be likely to be resident, "no starters or shifting persons." In full in Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 301. For *training* read *arraying*.

[May 3, 1598.] The letter read at a Common Hall.

(*Assessment to the levy.*) Towardes which charge it is now agreed, that the XXIII<sup>th</sup> shall paye vis. viii*d*. a peece. And the XLVIII<sup>th</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *i.e.* if bread be forfeited under the Assize of Bread.

<sup>2</sup> Also in Hall Papers II, No. 477.



iiis. iiid. a peece. And all the other inhabitantes and commoners in everie warde to be taxed by the Maior and Justices accordinglie after theire habillities in reasonable sorte. And the monye to be collected and levied vppe presentlie, after this Common Hall.

(*The Armour of the towne.*) Also itt is agreed that from hence-forthe all the towne armor nowe beinge or whiche hereafter shall bee, shall bee marked with a sincke foile beinge a stampe and that the Chamberlyns shall yeerelie att thend of theire yeere delyver all the armor vppe to the newe Chamberlyns by inventorie indented vnder theire handes, vppon payne that the olde Chamberlyns makinge defaulte thereof, shall forfitt to the Chamber of the towne of Leicester for euerye defaulte, xxs.

Also it is agreed that Mr George Tatam, Mr Heyricke, Mr Thomas Clarke and Thomas Chettell shall ride presentlie over to the Earle of Huntingdon towchinge this charge of soldiars etc.

<sup>1</sup>[May 25, 1598.] (p. 147.) The cawse of this metinge is for collection of monye for and towarde a further charge in makinge of provizion for our fortye soldiars, viz. xii muskettes, xx<sup>ti</sup> coreslittes and eight calivers besides the charge allreadye paste.

For and towarde which charge, hit is nowe agreed, that there shalbee another Sessement of the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> and XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> and Commoners, to the value of fortie poundes, or theire abowtes. So the same bee indifferentlie taxed, and the same to bee done by the Mayor and Justices, accordinge to mens abyllitye etc.

#### CCCLXIV. *Examinations before the Justices.*

Hall Papers II, No. 497. [June 15, 1598.] The said examynate (Joan Wood) beinge demaunded where her husbond bought the lace beinge statute lace<sup>2</sup> found in the possessyon of her husband at Rwell Fayor<sup>3</sup> last, answerethe and saythe that her said husbond bought all the said lace at Melton Market withe certen tufted lace, viii or 9 weekes past, of one she knowethe not, beinge a tawle thin faced man with a blacke bearde, havinge on an old blacke cloke, who had the lace vnder his arme, but what her husband paid for it, she can not tell; and further shee saythe, her husbond bought the browne thrid fownde likewise at Rwell Fayor, at a towne within a mile of Higham Ferrys of a woman dwellinge there. And the blacke thrid then also found in her husbandes possessyon, she saythe was Coventrye thrid,

<sup>1</sup> Also in Hall Papers II, No. 502.

<sup>2</sup> See Palliser, *Lace*, p. 265 (1875).

<sup>3</sup> Rothwell Fair.

and bought of a Coventrye man, in Leicester Markett on Palme Sundaye even.

Also she saythe, that the boxe (which is owned by Will<sup>m</sup> Woster) was bought at Sturbidge<sup>1</sup> Fayor last with coms<sup>2</sup> and cost iis.

Izabell Smythe doughter in lawe to the said Woodd, seythe she was at Rwell Fayor with her father and mother, and there solde handkerchiues and bandes.

The afore said Joanne Woodd and Izabell Smythe commytted to the Queenes Maiesties gaele of the towne of Leicester, there to remayne vntill the next generall gaele delyverye etc.

Ibid. No. 498. The said examynant (Ric. Dickons of Leicester, parchment maker) beinge demaunded where he was that night the prysoners brake oute of the towne gaole, answerethe and seythe, at whom at his owne howsse, and beinge demaunded what straungers were at his housse and dyd lye att howsse, eyther that night or any daye or night lately before, seythe not any att all. Also beinge demaunded if he dothe not knowe one Dunne that dothe want a thombe, seythe he dothe knowe hym, and seythe that on Sundaye morninge he drancke with Dunnes wief at Bartholomewe Nidds howsse, at which tyme she told hym her husband was in the towne and wold come anon, and the fyrst tyme she sawe hym was when he was in the gaole at Overendes.

Also beinge demaunded howe he cam by the mutton found in his howsse, seythe his wief bought a quarter of mutton of Mistris Bowne and payde for it *vd.* This examynant charged with suspicion of felony by Will<sup>m</sup> Saunderson for breakinge or helpinge to break the gaole etc.

Memorandum that before the said Maior and Justices, the said Will<sup>m</sup> Saunderson hathe charged the said Rychard Dickons with flatt felonye for helpinge, eadinge or consentinge to the, breakinge of his gaole, and lettinge oute of his prisoners then therein beinge etc.

The aforesaid Richard Dickons committed to the Queenes Maiesties goale of the towne of Leicester, for the felonye aforesaid which he is charged withall, by the aforesaid Saunderson.

Ibid. No. 499. [June 16, 1598.] The said examynate (Barthol. Nidd) beinge demaunded if one Dunne was att his howsse aboute Frydaye the 19 of Maye or not, seythe that the said Dunne laye att his howsse att Shrofe Tyde last, att which tyne he had a boye of the said Dunnes then to teache to learne to reade Englishe,

<sup>1</sup> Stourbridge Fair, Cambridge.

<sup>2</sup> combs,

with whom he contynued in learnynge abowte a fortnytt before, and then the said Dunne had his boye away with hym.

Also he saythe that one Sondag in the morninge abowte suche tyme as the toune gaol was broken (but weyther before or after, he remembrethe not), the said Dunne and his wief were att his howsse, at which tyme he paid vnto this examine *vidl.* which before he owght hym for the teachinge of his boye, but had no busynes with hym, and there at that tyme dyd send for a penyworthe of ale to dryncke.

And beinge demaunded if Dickyns the parchment maker weare then there with them, saythe, no, he was not there.

Also beinge demaunded if he were at the breakinge of the towne gaole or knowinge or consentinge thereunto, answered and saythe he was not, neyther yet pryvye, or knowinge of the breakinge thereof. And further saythe that one Dickyns a glasse man, and his son, were att this examines howsse the said Sondag mornynge where they weare drynckinge when the said Dunne came in to his howsse, and further seythe the said Dickons ys father to this examines meyde servaunte.

William Saunderson, the towne gaoler, dothe also charge the aforesaid examine with flatt felonye for helpinge, eadinge, or consentinge to the breakinge of his gaole, and lettinge oute of his prisoners therein then beinge.

*Ibid.* No. 501. [June 20, 1598.] The said examine (Ric. Woode, pettie chapman) beinge demaunded wheare he had one parcell of blacke thrid to the value of one pound, founde in his custodye at Rwell fayor last, answerethe and saythe, he bought it of a Coventrye man for 18*d.* at Maye Daye fayor last, att his owne standinge in the fayor.

Also beinge demaunded where he had the ii*l.* and dim. of thridd, viz. browne thryde, also found then in his custodye, saythe he bought all the same within ii myles of Higham Ferrys at a towne he knowethe not, and of a woman dwellinge there in a backe lane, beinge an old woman, and payd for i*l.* thereof xx*d.* and the other xviii*d.*

Also beinge demaunded where he had the ii*l.* of blacke thrid, then also found in his custodye, saythe he bought it of a man of Coventrye goinge in a leyther jerkyn cutt, whereof i*l.* he bought abowte 2 yeres paste, and the other at Maye daye last, and payd for one pound xviii*d.* and the other xx*d.*

Also beinge demaunded where he had i grose of tyn buttons,

then also found in his custodye, saythe he bought ii grosse of them togeyther in Leicester on a Saturday abowte 1 quarter of a yere past, and dyd geve ii peyre rybbyn sylcke in exchange to the value of xviii*d*.

Also where had you one peece of black statute tuft lace to the value of xi yardes, then also found vpon you, saythe he bowght itt in Leicester of a prisoner called Roger Armeson and payd for itt, and one William Glover his keper was present at the buinge thereof.

Also where had you the iiii remenantes of colered statute lace to the value of v dosen, saythe he bought them of a man in Melton of a markytt daye abowte x weekes past and payd for the same 5*s*., the man he knoweth not, but was a tawle man havinge a leane face.

Also he saythe he bought 1 pece of blacke cheyne lace<sup>1</sup> to the value of 10*s*. and quarter at Sturbridge fayor last of a Londoner and paid for it xx*d*. the oz.

Also where had you the 12 yardes of redd crewell byllyment<sup>2</sup> lace seythe he bought it at Sturbridge fayor with other more sortes of laces and paid for it iis. vi*d*. the oz. of a Londoner.

viii payor of playinge cardes bought at the said fayor and of the same, and paid for them iis.

Also where had you i peece of blacke yuckell<sup>3</sup> solde to the value of xii yardes, bought it with more in a rele at Sturbridge fayor, was ii yeres, and paid for it xxiii*d*. (v<sup>o</sup>.) Also Leaming(ton) lace, hooks and eyes for clokes and gounes (etc.).

Hall Papers II, No. 505. [July 7, 1598.] Thomas Alsoppe of Leicester, sadler, saythe that on Tuesdays the iiii<sup>th</sup> of Julye last past, he sawe two persons viz. the wief of Thomas Stapleford of Leycester, joyner, and one Thomas Hodges of Greate Glenne in the countye of Leicester, husbondman, togeyther in suspicious maner in a parler in wydowe Yates howsse in Leycester, and the dore shut to them, and dyd see hym kysse her vpon the bedd in the said parler, also he saythe, that Robert Clyfton, sadler, the constable of the ward, dyd see them in the said parlour.

The said Thomas Hodges hathe confessed that he and goodwife Stapleford satt togeyther in Wydowe Yates housse on a bedsyde in the parler and then dyd kysse the said goodwief Stapleford there, and beinge charged that the dore was shutto then, saythe he held it with his foote, hearinge a stirr.

<sup>1</sup> See Palliser, *Lace*, p. 265 (1875).

<sup>2</sup> habiliment.

<sup>3</sup> ? Youghal.

CCCLXV. *Petition against a lease of closes in Braunston Frith.*

Hall Papers II, No. 504. [July 3, 1598.] Right honorable our duties most humbly remembred, wee are to become humble suters vnto you, in the behalfe of our poore towne, which is her maiesties towne (and one of the moste aunyenst townes of her highnes duchie of Lancaster), that whereas wee are secretlye informed, that one Robert Worship is a suter vnto your honour, for the takinge by lease certen closes called Bramston Frithe closes, by estymacion som lx acers, beinge parcell of the duchie of Lancaster and which we hold by devers leases from her maiestye (as well in possession as reversion) as belonginge to the Graunge in Leicester, parcell of the possessyons of the late dissolved Colledge of Leicester, by rent of £32. os. 6d. per annum or there abowtes, as by severall records thereof, remayninge in the duchie chamber, maye better appeyre vnto your honour. And may it therefore please your honour, att our humble requestes, that theire maye bee some staye made of further proseadinge therein, vntill the begynnyng of the next terme, att which tyme eyther our Recorder or some other counsellour in our behalf shall attende vnto your honour to geve yowe true informacion concerninge the same, wherin wee shall in all dutie remayne thanckfull, and be bounde to praye for your increase in all honour. And so wee humbly take our leaves, Leycester this third daye of Julye 1598.

Your honours moste humblye bounden

Thomas Nixe, mayor

James Clarke

Robert Heyryck

Will<sup>m</sup> Morton

Raphe Chettell.

To the right honorable Sir Robert Cicill Knight, Chauncellor of her highnes duchie of Lancaster, and of her maiesties most honorable pryvye counsell.

Hall Papers II, No. 506. [July 6, 1598.] Mr Maior, my commendacions done vnto yourselfe, with the residewe in generall, with leeke<sup>1</sup> thanks for your letter, accordinge as yooe desired have performed (with some difficultie) a generall staye for any further proceedinge by graunte to the bishoppe or otherwise (before Michelmas terme). And in that wee prevayled with Mr Attorney of the dutchie<sup>2</sup>, as the bearer heareof canne more att lardge relate

<sup>1</sup> like?

<sup>2</sup> John Brograve.

vnto yowe: As concerninge all which he hathe faithfullie promessed, an absolute staye of the premisses accordinge to your requeste by letter, I gave him the copie of Mr Chauncellors letter. Mr Chauncellor himselve was muche perswaded againste you, as I perceaved, by the labore of his man Mr Percivall, whoe was drawne and had swallowed the silver hooke for the adverse parte (the worshippfull gentleman I meane) and it was alledged that youe weare wronge doers to the Queene and the partie faithfullie followed for the revealing of the Queenes right to his greate chardges of a generall knowledge. For that Mr Chauncellors answer was without comfort. But I, like a boulde wooer, woulde not bee satisfied with one deniall; I adventured for a seconde, and in sekinge, I founde your contentes, which was that I desired. And soe sendinge that, by this bearer, with a generall commendacions in well wishinge, I committ all to Goodes holy kepinge whoever direct youe. Temple Interior this present vi<sup>th</sup> of July 1598. Reg. Eliz. quadragesimo.

Your more faythfull then tried

George Parkyns.

This bearer hathe gratefied Mr Attorney and his man with xxxs. for their kindnesses in furtheringe your impossible dispatche in businesses without Mr Brograve the Attorney his favour he is (domine fac) to turn etc.

[Endorsed] to the worshipfull his verie lovinge frindes the Maior and Bretheren of Leicester bee these delivered.

### CCCLXVI. *Relief of the poor.*

Hall Papers II, No. 509<sup>1</sup>. [July 23, 1598?] The Earl of Huntingdon to the Mayor asking that the £40 which his late brother gave for the relief of the poor should be handed to Thomas and Margaret Clarke who promise to employ 100 people. (See Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 301.)

Hall Papers II, No. 530. [Sep. 7, 1598.] After my heartie commendacions. Althoughe I have bothe spoken and written to yow about the dysbursing of the fortie poundes which my late honoured brother left with yow to be employed towards the setting a worke the pore inhabitantes of your towne and yet cannot bring my desire to passe, and althoughe yt [tends] to have his charitable meaning herein performed, yet I have thought good by a fewe lynes

<sup>1</sup> Another letter from the same to the same on the 100 footmen required by the Council (see below p. 348) is in Hall Papers II, No. 526, but is indecipherable.

to require that the same maye be delivered for three yeares to this bearer vppon good securitye to repaye the same and sett the pore a worke as he promiseth. Wherin I also require yow will set aparte suche fryvolous delayes as heretofore herein have bene used: otherwise, vppon notice that my request shall not be performed I will take the securitie my selfe, and take the money from yow and dispose thereof as I shall thinke best my selfe. And so bid yow farewell. Ashebye Dalazouche, this vii<sup>th</sup> of September, 1598.

Your loving frend,  
George Huntingdon.

### CCCLXVII. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 147. [July 21, 1598.] Note of a lease of lands in Loughborough Thorpe to be kept among the Leicester records for safety.

(p. 148.) (*Freemen.*) George Parkyns, gentleman (sonne and heire apparent of Richard Parkyns, Esquior, Recorder of the towne of Leicester), made free, in respect hee was chosen one of the Burgesses of the last parliament for the towne of Leicester, his fyne—A pottell of Wyne. Jur'. Feod' non sol'<sup>1</sup>.

John Stanford, the younger, gent., sonne and heire of Mr John Stanford, the elder, made free in respecte hee was chosen the other Burgesse of the last parliament for the said towne of Leicester, his fyne—A pottell of wyne. Jur'. Feod' non sol'<sup>1</sup>.

(p. 149.) Alice Harttेशorne, wydowe, of the Newarke Graunge, made free, her fyne xs.

Thomas Browne, tayllor, seruante to the Right Worshipfull Thomas Cave, Esquior, made free by the consent of Mr Nixe, Maior, Mr James Clarke, Mr Morton, and Mr Heyricke, att the request of his said masterr, his fine but vis. vii<sup>id</sup>. and by them released.

[Sep. 21, 1598.] (p. 151.) *Assisarrs of victualles* with the Maior, viz. Mr Will<sup>m</sup> Morton and Mr James Ellice, nominated and chozen accordinge to the statute etc. to assice victuales with the Maior, for that he is a victualer viz. an inkeeper and a common brewer, etc.

(*Mayoralty.*) (p. 152.) Mr Newcome, one of the two nominated for the mayoralty, in regard he is now spared being put in election, agreed to deliver a bond of £40, on condition that if he happen to be elected next year, he shall either serve or pay a fine of £20.

<sup>1</sup> Sworn, fee not paid.

(p. 158.) *Graunges.* Item it is agreed by the wholl Common Hawle at this present assembled, that the Graunges with their appurtenances, shall not bee lett by any Maior hereafter to any person or persons, vppon payne of one thowsand powndes to be levyed and ymployed to the vse of the poore of the towne of Leicester, and repayringe of hie waies in and abowte the same towne, except by the consent of a Common Hawll.

XXIII<sup>or</sup> et XLVIII<sup>o</sup> to weare Gownes, etc. Also it is agreed that the Companies of euerye Common Hawll, Syse<sup>1</sup>, Sessions and Fayors, attendinge of the Mayor, shall weare gownes vpon payne of euerye one of the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> xiid. apeece, and the Eight and fortie vid. apeece.

\**Valentyne Wells. Christofer Hallifeld.* Also att this Common Hall, Valentyne Wells and Christofer Hallife(l)d, at their humble suite, were released of and from the Companye of the Eight and fortie.

#### CCCLXVIII. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1597—8.] *Receipts*...£327. 9s. 10d....For soldiars £30. 3s. 10d.  
...*Giftes*...Queenes majesties playors more (etc.) 14s. 6d....charges in eatinge of venyson which was geaven by Sir John Graye 48s. 10d.  
...Mr Mountague the preacher...Ladie Graye and the Ladie Harrington...Nevell Payne one of the Earle of Huntingdons gentlemen in respecte of his good will 20s.

*Firste charge of soldiars* (in detail) £28. 17s. 4d.

*Second charge*...makeinge black of fyve spanishe murryans and makinge eares<sup>2</sup> to foure of them...£8. 14s.

*Other payements for soldyars*...brode blewe cloth for three soldyars furnished with one corslett, one muskett and one calyver which were to bee sent presentlie into Irelande with the soldyars of the countie, which were all in number 100...for rybbyn...The saide three soldiars weare released by the Earle of Huntingdon...the said cotes therefore remayne to the use of the towne readie made for a new charge (yf neede require)...£2. 6s. 8d.

*Reparacions*...foure paire of woolcardes<sup>4</sup> 3s. 4d....

*Fees etc.*...to fetch beddinge oute of the countrie borrowed against the assices in Lent for the Judges 3s....paid in the Duchie Courte for the charges in surrendringe uppe of Sir Edw. Hastings knighte his patent of the Stewardshippe of the Towne Cowrte of Leicester, which before hee had assigned to the Maior and Burgesses

<sup>1</sup> Assize.

<sup>2</sup> Also in Hall Papers II, No. 557.

<sup>3</sup> eare=handle or means of attachment, or protections for the ears, side-piece of metal?

<sup>4</sup> combs or cards to clean wool.



...and renewinge of itt in the name of the Maior of the Towne of Leicester to the use of the Maior and Burgesses of the same towne, under the duchie seale the somme of £13<sup>1</sup>...Maie Daie faior to twooce fellowes for keepinge of wandringe people oute of the towne 1s... 3 yards 3 quarters of browne blue<sup>2</sup> for a gowne clothe for John Underwoodd the mace bearer 35s. 6d....a paire of shewes geven to a poore gerrell<sup>3</sup> beinge one of the daughters of one W. Dakins butcher decessed 1s. 4d....horse hier for ii daies to Coventrie to fetche whome the clothes sent thither to bee fulled 2s....sixe yards of blacke frees and three yards of blacke welche cotton for a gowne...9s. 6d....etc.

*Totall...£266. 7s. 8d.*

### CCCLXIX. *Mayor's Subsidy Account.*

Attached to the Chamberlains' Roll of 1597—8.

					£.	s.	d.
Commoners in Mr Mortons warde	...	...	...		2	1	1
" " Mr G. Tatams warde (to the Northe gate)					1	16	10
" " Mr W. Norice "	...	...	...		1	9	4
" " R. Chettells "	...	...	...		1	16	3
" " W. Yates "	...	...	...		3	0	0
" " R. Heyricks "	...	...	...		1	11	5
" " Senvye gate "	...	...	...			10	10
" " J. Clarkes "	...	...	...			18	4
" " J. Ellices "	...	...	...			18	3
" " South gate "	...	...	...		2	1	9
" " T. Clarkes "	...	...	...		1	6	0

The Foure and twentie...10s. apece of all butt Mr Watts, £11. 10s. 0d.

The Eight and fortie, 5s. apece whereof 6 of them did not paye, £10.

Commoners for post-horses (in wards), 35s.

Four and twentie...taxed att 1s. 4d. apece.

Eighte and fortie...8d. apece.

(Other receipts for soldiers and sales of leases.)

*Total £202. 10s. 4d.*

*Payments...*for the keepinge of W. Greenes boye beinge borne in the towne before the statute<sup>1</sup>...Earle of Darbies players 10s....Lorde Barkeleis players 10s....geven to prysoners and other poore people att severall tymes 7s. 8d....

<sup>1</sup> See above, No. CCCLXI.

<sup>3</sup> girl.

<sup>2</sup> A kind of stuff. see *N.E.D.*

<sup>4</sup> 39 Eliz. c. 3.

CCCLXX. *Letters on Town Business.*

Hall Papers II, No. 545. [Oct. 12, 1598.] Good Mr Maior, noe lesse commendacions then hartie thankes in generall for your k[ing] letter<sup>1</sup>] wherin I have moved Mr Attorney of the duchie<sup>2</sup> for the stainge of Woorshipps [action<sup>1</sup>] as youe desired. But all in vayne for (honestas parvipenditur) all promissess [are] not kepte. For he faythfullie promissed your Chamberlaine, with my selfe, that we shoulde bee preceeded therin, before this terme, and then with notice of our partes. I chardged him with his promisse, whoe protestethe vnto me, it passed by the offecall of Mr Chauncellors owne selfe, before wee ever spooke, and that not knowne to him selfe, till of late, when it was too late to helpe. But I rather thinke that Angells Gabriell<sup>3</sup> have bine shutors againste youe. For (Auri sacra fames quid non mortalia pectora cogis<sup>4</sup>) and beinge as it is to make a virtue of necessitie, beinge, that wee maye vse him otherwise, I woulde not faule out with him, but have reserved him to make youe amense (as he hathe promissed) in that lease yf ther bee any helpe, or in any other occasion. Next for publication of your depositions, youe are wonderfullie mistaken, for I find by searche in the duchie office towe orders, one where publication hathe passed att the request of youe the plentiffes ; yf therfor youe have copies of them I praye youe sende me woorde, and howe youe are overtaken by your memories in writinge the publication was not graunted. The other order it semethe was for a newe commission, which remayneth ther as a blanke, without nomination of any commissions, seminge as that the same shoulde have bine staied vppon some agrement betwixt the parties. And further as touchinge our other affayres, soe farre as wee have proceaded, the<sup>5</sup> prosper well, which for a spedie and good endinge shall nether wante care nor diligence nor vse of frindes soe farre a[s] possiblie I maye doe youe love or good. And where youe speciallie writte for a countie of itselfe, I moved Mr Attorney Generall<sup>6</sup> formerlie, whoe refferred me over to my Lord Andersonne, whose answer was, that by howe many corporations in Englande weare counties, by soe many ther weare over many, which was to conclude he liked of none; nevertheless wee will deale wiselie as wee maye

<sup>1</sup> torn. See above, p. 346.<sup>2</sup> John Brograve.<sup>3</sup> money.<sup>4</sup> Quid non mortalia pectora cogis,Auri sacra fames! Virg. *Æn.* 3, 57.<sup>5</sup> the=they.<sup>6</sup> Sir E. Coke.

(beggars maye not bee chewscrs), and it is good to playe smale game in good accions rather then sitt forthe alltogether for wraunglers. For great personns canne not endure importunities, therefore in tedious shutes<sup>1</sup> wee must winne them as wee maye, by litle and litle. And soe in the ende perfect our purpose, which wee ame after. Thus beinge hastned vnto other occasions, I ame enforسد obbruptlie to ende. Commitinge youe all vnto the direction of the Allmightie whoe ever sende youe all that shall bee good for youe all. Temple interior, this present xii<sup>th</sup> of October anno 1598 Regine quadragesimo.

Yours faithfullie lovinge and  
moste assured in all,  
Geo. Parkyns.

I praye my beste remembraunce done vnto good Mr Robert Heyricke with hartie thanks for his kinde lettree, which I receaved from his brother.

Hall Papers II, No. 541. [Oct. 17, 1598.] George Belgrave to the Mayor on behalf of the bearer, who informs him that he is inhibited from dwelling in a house within your Corporation unless he find bonds for £200 that neither his wife nor children shall be burdensome to the town "at which condition I mucche mervayle seing ther is no suche matter in any of the late statutes made ther for the provision of y<sup>e</sup> pooer or for y<sup>e</sup> punissment of rogues." He testifies to the man's character. He has been no charge to our town, "and for your Corporation or any other toune whatsoever, to provide in futuer what shall befall in that respect, wear very inconvenient, because you and others do now know your present estates, little knowing what may become of posterities. Therefore for as much as it is lawfull for every subiect that hath a house to sell [or] to lett the same to him that needeth... and for him that needeth it is lawfull to take of him that hath to sell, I am to intreat you to be respective of this bearer." From Belgrave.

CCCLXXI. *Examinations before the Justices.*

Hall Papers II, No. 547. Oct. 18, 1598. For accuzacion<sup>2</sup>. The sayinges of Johanne Cradocke the wyfe of Robertt Cradocke of Leicester, cutler.

The saide Johanne Cradocke saith that on Wensdaye before twelveth daye was a twelmoneth, Mistress Clarke the wyfe of Mr Thomas Clarke nowe Maior of Leicester came to the saide Johanne Cradockes howsse to demaunde rent for the said howsse, and the said Johanne answered she knewe not to whom she shoulde paie the rent, whether to the Queenes Maiestie, or vnto youre Mistress

<sup>1</sup> suits.

<sup>2</sup> See the account in Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 302, and below p. 370.

Clarke, then the said Mistress Clarke said vnto her these wordes (viz.): the Queene hath no neede of my rent, but said the Queene shoulde have a rope, and theis wordes she repeated twice, beinge both togeyther in Johanne Cradockes yarde and beinge demaunded whoe was present att the same tyme, saith not anye bodye, but herselfe and the said Mistress Clarke.

And further the said Johanne Cradocke saythe, that she toulde her neighbors aboute her, the sayings of the said Mistress Clarke, but did not complayne herselfe neither to the Maior of the towne of Leicester nor to any of the Justicis of the same towne, but was advysed by her said neybour to houlde her tounge for shame, for that they knewe Mistress Clarke woulde give oute noe suche wordes.

The daie and yeere aforesaid and before thaforesaid Justicis the examynacion or sayings of Anne Clarke the wief of Mr Thomas Clarke nowe Maior of the towne of Leicester, geavon and saide by the said Johanne Cradocke to thaforesaid Maior and Justicis.

The said examynate beinge demaunded whether she spoake vnto Johanne Cradocke the wiefe of Robert Craddocke of Leicester, cutler, those wordes viz.: that the Queenes Maiestie shoulde have a rope, answereth and saith that vppon her salvacion she never spooke any suche wordes at any tyme neyther to her, nor any others. And God defende, saythe she, I shoulde ever speake evell wordes against Her Maiestie.

Hall Papers II, No. 564. [Jan. 16, 1599.] Richard Hickes examine says that on Dec. 3 last, "he lying on his bed, with three more prisoners, and their keeper, Will. Saunderson the gaoler, in the same roome, in rehersing of wordes, the said Saunderson did perswade this examine that he should write unto Sir Edw. Hastings knight concerning of treason towchinge Mistris Meyrys and Mr Morton —Sir Edw. and Mr Morton not being friends."

## CCCLXXII. *Letters on the Renewal of the Charter.*

Hall Papers II, No. 548. [Oct. 17, 1598.] After my very hartie commendacions. Wheras a petition has ben dyrected by the Master of the Requestes vnto her Maiesties Attorney Generall, my master, for the renewing of the charter of the towne of Leicester, with some addicions and amendements of the defectes of the said former charter: For that my master will not proceade to the perfecting of the said new charter before he doeth vnderstand your concentes and good liking thervnto: And that he doe allso vnderstand from you as well the names of the Maior, Aldermen and other officers that are to be

appointed by this new booke, as also the auncient governement and order of the said towne, and by what officers, and in what manner they have ben and is presently governed,—I have therfore (having the charge of the drawing of the said booke committed vnto me) thought good to signifie his worshippes pleasure vnto you. Praying you by writing engrossed in parchment and sealed with your common seale to certifie your consentes for the renewing of the charter, and also to sett downe as well the names of such persons as shall be appointed to be officers in your new charter, as the forme of your government and the eleccion of your officers, as yt is and hath ben aunciently vsed, to the end ther vppon your certificate therof the booke mai proceede accordingly: I praie you also send vp some of your best and latest chartres, or a trewe copie therof, for they will geve greate furthrans to this busynes. And so doe very hartily comitt you to the blessed proteccion of y<sup>e</sup> Allmightie. At the Temple this xvii<sup>th</sup> of October, 1598.

Yours assuredly to vse

Ry. Locksmith.

CCCLXXIII. *Brewers' Ordinal.*

Hall Papers II, No. 557 *b*. [Nov. 24, 1598.] The ordynall for the brewars was nowe openlye readd, and the same vnto the common Hawle seemd good to bee put in execution, so as it shalbee lawfull for the inholders to brewe for their travelinge gesstes and famyleys only, but not to suffer any townes men to tyle in there howses, except it bee with a stranger; hit ys nowe further agreed that the said ordynall shalbee putt in execucion, accordynge to the contentes thereof, and that all fines and forfeitures thereby aysinge, vntill this daye twelve monethe, shalbee to make a stocke for the vse of the poore.

And also yt ys agreed that Mr Mayor shall nowe name and appoynt a master and two wardens to put the said ordynall in execucion, who so beinge named shall forfytt *v*l*i*. apeece yf they refewze to execute the same, or do not execute the same, and to be payd within one monethe next after the forfeiture thereof.

Item yt ys agreed that the companyes at every Common Hawle syses and sessyons and fayors shall weare gownes on payne of the 24 *xiid*. apeece and the 48 *viid*. apeece.

<sup>1</sup>It ys nowe agreed that Mr Gyllot, Mr Rwes and Mr Thomas Chettell shall nowe chuse a master and wardyns, and those who they do nominate to stand for this yere followinge and to be sworne accordinge to the said ordynall, vpon the paynes and penaltyes aforesaid, and they have chosen Mr William Noryce, master or steward, and Wyatt Fowler and Henrye Butterfyld, wardyns. Nota for that Mr Noryce dothe refuze to serve as master or steward of the company of brewers, he ys discharged and nowe Mr Mayor and the Justices have accordinge to the said ordynall made choyse of Wyatt Fowler to be the steward and Thomas Chettell and Henrye Butterfyld to be the wardyns.

CCCLXXIV. *Suit to the Queen's oven.*

Hall Papers II, No. 578. [Feb. 3, 1599.] Inter Rad. Chettell (and 5 named) et Will. Beckett defend'.

For as much as the said defendant beinge an inhabitant within the towne of Leicester, hath in his answeare vppon his oath confessed that hee oweth sute vnto her Maiesties common backhowses in the towne of Leicester, and is, hathe beene, and will bee redde to bringe and bake all his bread which hee doth vsually spend in his house for his famly at her Maiesties common bakehouses, but saith that hee is a common victualler and hath vsed to bake in an ouen which hee hath in his howse, pies, pasties and sometimes spiced bread and cakes: Wherevppon it is ordered that the said defendant bee from henceforth inioyned to bake his said bread at her Maiesties said common ouens accordingly. And further it is ordered that the said defendant shall from henceforth forbear to bake any spiced bread or cakes, but such onely and so much as the Maior and Aldermen of the said towne of Leicester for the tyme beinge shall from tyme to tyme vnder their common seale give him licence to doe accordinge to the direction of the lords and others of her Maiesties most honorable privie counsell in that behalf, and no otherwise. And the same maye bake att his owne oven.

Ex<sup>d</sup> per Will. Gerrard.

Hall Papers II, No. 579. [Ap. 8, 1599<sup>2</sup>.] Mr Maior; I vnderstande by the bearer hereof William Becket, y<sup>at</sup> he hathe bine

<sup>1</sup> So also Hall Papers II, No. 556, Nov. 24, 1598.

<sup>2</sup> In Hall Papers II, No. 578, the suits of other bakers are treated. Cf. Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 304.

licenced to vittall in your towne of Leicester, and for that his wyfe hath vttered, for y<sup>e</sup> better maynetenaunce of herselfe and her greate charge, some spiced kakes or breade, whereat the bakers have seemed to take exceptions, and therevpon so molested them as thereby they be greatlie impoverysed: My desire is for y<sup>e</sup> relief of him and his charge, that sithe it lyeth in you to graunte him a licence to sell and vtter such kakes, that you would so permytt him to do without any further molestation by them offered: For as I do heare by informacion that there is an order sett downe in y<sup>e</sup> dutchie courte, that you maye make and confirme him a licence so to do, and thereby free y<sup>e</sup> poore man from any troble hereafter by any of them procured, which I would wyshe you to doe, for y<sup>e</sup> better relyefe of him and his great charge. And so I bidd you farewell. Asheby, the viii<sup>th</sup> Aprill, 1599.

Your frend,

George Huntingdon.

CCCLXXV. *Letter to the Earl of Huntingdon  
on the town's poverty.*

Hall Papers II, No. 572. [March, 1599.] The Mayor explains why the corporation have not waited on the Earl, and laments the decay of the town. The raising of soldiers and subsidies and poor relief reduce the town and make men "refuse our societies." There is no clothmaking or trade. The town has existed 2000 years and never so poor as now. In full in Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 303.

CCCLXXVI. *Freedom from Toll.*

Hall Papers II, No. 574. [March 20, 1599.] After our duties remembred to your honor, maye itt please youe, the towne of Leicester, [part]<sup>1</sup> of the duchie of Lancaster, hathe remayned (by manye ages) a free towne, for [merchants]<sup>1</sup> and others that woulde resorte for traffique to buye or sell there. And the Earles of Leicester and Lancaster, consideringe the situacion thereof (beinge in the mydest of the countye of Leicester), as well in regarde of the ease of the countrye, as also for the proffytt of the said towne, have devised (from tyme to tyme) meanes to contynue and increase the said towne, and have thought no meanes more apte thereunto, then by pollicie to govern well and by good order and curteouse entreatie, to alower<sup>2</sup> and bringe the confynynge<sup>3</sup> neighbours to resorte, traffique

<sup>1</sup> torn.

<sup>2</sup> allure.

<sup>3</sup> adjacent.

and merchaundice there. And for better accomplishment wheareof they procured a libertie, to all that would so come and traffique, to bee free from tole for any thinge to bee bought or sold there, by which meanes the said towne hathe benee contynued in reasonable good estate, vntill nowe of late (by some vndewe meanes) hathe bene suggested to youre honour to the contrarye, and as we vnderstand a lease therebie is allredie graunted oute of the duchie to one Mannyng to take tolle for all thinges bought and sold within the said towne, a thing vnherde of heretofore, [which] tolle takinge dothe greatlye discontent the countrie people, and is and wilbee great hurte to the saide towne of Leicester. Sure affirmacion that the said towne shoulde be free from tole, wee thincke wilbe well proved by matter of recorde, and wee, the gentlemen inhabitantes in the said countie of Leicester, for the love we beare vnto oure countrie, and mayntenance of the said towne, have thought itt oure partes and dewtie to signifie the premisses to your honor, humblie desiringe youre honor that it wolde please youe to have consideracion hereof, wherein the whole cuntrie and towne of Leicester shalbe mucche bownden and beholdinge to youre honor. Thus leavinge, wee commande you to thallmightie, whoe send you mucche increase of honor, Leicester the xx<sup>th</sup> daye of Marche, 98.

Your honors humble,

Edw. Hastings	Tho. Cave
Walt. Hastings	(others torn)
Hen. Harrington	
Hen. Beaumont	
Will. Cave	
Edw. Turvile	
John Plumbe	
Liston Cave.	

[Endorsed] to Sir Rob. Cecill kt. Chancellor of H. M. Duchie of Lancaster and one of H. M. most honorable Privye Councell.

Hall Papers II, No. 575. [March 31, 1599.] A similar letter to the Earl invoking his aid in the matter of Manning's lease.

#### CCCLXXVII. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 158. [March 9, 1599.] *Roger Hall's Accompte* (as bailiff or collector of the lands of the late Corpus Christi gild; account read).



*Concerninge the Closes and the Tole, etc.* Also theire was now oppenlie readd divers bills of complaynt, answeres and order oute of the Duchie Courte abowte the suite of the Closes parcell of the Graunges, etc. And abowte the discharge of Tole, etc.

*Money to bee lente by the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> and XLVIII<sup>ti</sup>.* Item it is agreed that the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> shall lend xs. apeece and the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> vs. apeece towards the charges in suite for the said Closes and Tole, and the same to be presently gaythered vppe. And the same to bee repayed ageyne by the nowe Chamberlyns, etc.

<sup>1</sup>*Certen of the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> dismissed, etc.* Also at this Common Hall was Thomas Payneter and George Greene, Raphe Orton, Thomas Younge, and Raphe Chettell, dismissed of and from the Companye of the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> for the cawses followinge, viz. First Thomas Payneter att his owne suite, for that in respect of his debt and dissabillitye, he was not able lenger to contynue of the said Companye. George Greene was dismissed in respecte hee kept and keepeth his howse for debte. Raphe Orton, at his owne suite in regarde he was decayed in his substance and habillitie. Thomas Younge becawse he is gonne oute of this towne of Leicester to dwell, and Raphe Chettell for that he is oute of the Realme as is said.

[Ap. 13, 1599.] <sup>2</sup>*The money before lent to be repayed by the Chamberlyns, etc.* Firste whereas at the last Common Hall it was agreed that the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> should lend xs. apeece, and the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> vs. apeece, it is nowe agreed that the Chamberlyns nowe beinge shall repaye the same ageyne before there accompte. And also itt is agreed that all suche as haue beene made either of the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> or of the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> sithence the laste Hall, or hereafter shalbee, vntill boath the Companies bee full, shall paye and lend xs. and vs. apeece as others of theire Companies haue and muste doe.

*Archer.* Item it is also agreed and theire is nowe chosen and appoynted Mr Gillott, Mr Hunter, Mr Thomas Chettell and Mr Freake, to take order with Richarde Archer for and towching an offer of *vli.* by yeare, he saithe hee will bringe to the towne, yf the towne will graunte him a lease of that thinge he will informe them of, for *xxi<sup>ti</sup>* yeres vnder the rent of *vli.* per annum.

[May 6 (Sunday), 1599.] (p. 160.) *A Maiors Brother.* Item att this meetinge it was agreeede that Mr John Wilne, the Queenes Maiesties Baylliffe of this Burrough of Leicester, shoulde bee made a Maiors Brother. And the next Courte daie to be sworne and sett on the Benche.

<sup>1</sup> Also in Hall Papers II, No. 569.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. No. 576.

*Towchinge the Closes in the Frithe parcell of the Graunge, etc.*  
Also at this meetinge was openly readde certen articles indented made betweene George Brooke one of the Chamberlyns of the towne of Leicester, for and on the behalfe of the Maior and Burgesses of the said towne of Leicester of thon parte, and John Lyster<sup>1</sup> of London gentleman of thother partie, towchinge and concerninge the Closes in the Frithe belonginge to the Graunges and a bonde of 200 markes for the performance of the couenauntes, etc. Itt is nowe agreed to stand to the said Articles (etc.).

CCCLXXVIII. *Admission to Market.*

Hall Papers II, No. 583. [Ap. 21, 1599.] Mr Maior: this pore man William Browne havinge for his offence receved the lawe, and beinge very penytent for the same, desireth to lyve by his trade to maynteyne himselfe, his wiffe and fyve small children the better by his travell and honest indeavour. And therfor I praie you that you will permytt him to resort to your markett with his wares, behavinge himselfe as a dutifull subiect, and accordinge to the lawes of the realme as he is suffered to do to the other markettes in theis partes, for the which I shall hartelie thancke you, and even so with my like comendacions I bide you farewell, from Baggrave the xxi<sup>th</sup> of Aprill 1599.

Your very lovinge frend,

Tho. Cave.

CCCLXXIX. *Morris Dancing.*

Hall Papers II, No. 594. [June 1, 1599.] The sayinges or accusation of Josua Johnson and of Rychard Moseley, of the New Hospitall<sup>2</sup> in the towne of Leicester, the first daye of June (1599)<sup>3</sup>.

Before Thomas Clarke, Maior of the towne of Leicester, William Morton and Thomas Nixe, Justices of the peace of our soueraigne ladye the Queene within the said towne and liberties thereof, ageynst Richard Woodshawe of Leicester aforesaid, shoemaker.

Josua Johnson saythe that yesterdaye in the forenoone he hard Rycharde Woodshawe of the towne of Leicester, shoemaker, speake these wordes followinge, viz. That yf wee do lyve, wee shall within

<sup>1</sup> For the litigation which ensued see below.

<sup>2</sup> Wigston's.

<sup>3</sup> Cf. Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 305.

theise sixe yeares see other gates<sup>1</sup> dawnesinge and mayinge, than is nowe, and further said the preacher was a liar, for that in his sermond he said Mr Maior cawsed a meypole to bee taken downe and cutt in peeces, the said maye pole was peesed and sett vppe ageyne, which was not true, for that it was not peesed, but that part which was left was sett vppe ageyne.

Rychard Moseley saythe that he harde the said Woodshawe saye, that yf wee do lyve these sixe yeares, wee shall see other gates dawnesinge in the towne, then theire ys nowe.

The said Rychard Woodshawe beinge examyned and demaunded whatt wordes he spake yesterdaye in the Newe Hospitall, answereth and saithe he said that within theise sixe yeares itt maye bee theire will bee more morrys dawnsinge in the towne.

Thomas Clarke. Maior.  
Wm Morton.

Hall Papers II, No. 596. The names of the morrys dawnsers on Tuesday night in Whitsonweek last [May 29] 1599.

1. Rob. Turpyn, servant to G. Greene.
2. Ric. Brewan, servant to John Creak.
3. Ric. Awmond, Thomas Pares man.
4. Will. Salesbury, servant to Will. Hunt baker.
5. Edw. Cheyney, servant to Nic. Birkytt the curryer.
6. And Ric. Woodshawe, shoemaker, their accuzar.

(Bail taken for the first 5, and note that Ed. Cheyney "appoynted one of the 3 soldyers for Leicester and sent into Ireland.")

Hall Papers II, Nos. 608—9. [July 26, 1599.] R. Woodshaw's letter to the Judge Sir E. Anderson stating that the Mayor gave leave to have the Maypole set up, which was done with morrice dancers, but the Mayor was "privily incensed." The writer hopes to see more morrice-dancing than ever before, for he heard Mr Hunter say that when he came to be Mayor he would allow a morrice out of service-time. For such speeches the Mayor has bound him over to appear at the assizes. He prays for favour. In full in Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 305; Kelly's *Notices*, pp. 230—2.

### CCCLXXX. *Charter of Elizabeth<sup>2</sup>.*

Roll 899\*. [June 1, 1599.] Elizabeth (etc.) to all those to whom these our present letters come, greeting. Whereas our borough of Leicester is a borough very ancient and populous, and from ancient

<sup>1</sup> kinds (of).

<sup>2</sup> The Latin is not given and some of the forms of the charter have been summarized, as it has been printed twice in full: in Nichols' *Leicestershire*, iv. App. p. 408, and in Nichols' *Bibl. Topog. Brit.* viii. p. 938. It is partly translated and partly summarized in Throsby's *Leicester*, pp. 95—8.

times has been a borough incorporate, and the inhabitants thereof and their predecessors have hitherto had and held divers liberties, franchises, etc. as well on account of prescriptions and customs used in the said borough from time immemorial as from gifts and grants made by divers of our progenitors once kings of England—which grants were not made to the inhabitants by the one uniform name of a corporation, but under various and different names, as fully appears from various charters and letters patent of our several progenitors then of old time made and granted: And whereas our beloved subjects the Mayor and burgesses of our borough of Leicester have most humbly besought us—inasmuch as we are willing in this behalf graciously to extend to the said Mayor and burgesses our royal favour and munificence: And because we, for the better government and improvement of the borough have vouchsafed by our letters patent to ratify, etc. or create anew the said Mayor and burgesses of the borough into another body corporate and politic, by the name of Mayor, bailiffs and burgesses of the borough of Leicester, with the addition of certain liberties as shall seem to be expedient for the public good: We therefore being graciously concerned for the improvement of the borough, and willing that for the future some certain and undoubted rule may be observed for maintaining the peace and good government of the people therein, and desiring that the borough may for ever remain peaceful and quiet, to the terror of evil-doers and the praise of them that do well, and that our peace and other acts of justice may be observed there without further hindrance, and expecting that if the burgesses of the same borough and their successors can boast of greater honours, liberties and privileges from our ampler grant, that then they will feel themselves more especially and more strongly bound to execute all services and duties which shall be incumbent upon them to us our heirs and successors: Of our special grace we order that the borough of Leicester shall be a free borough in itself, and that the burgesses and their successors for ever are and shall be by virtue of these presents one body corporate and politic in fact and in name, and a perpetual community of one Mayor, two bailiffs and the burgesses of the borough of Leicester, and by the same name they shall have a constant succession.

And that they under the name of Mayor, bailiffs and burgesses shall be for ever persons able and competent in law to hold, receive, and possess lands, tenements, liberties and privileges of whatever kind, in fee and perpetuity, and also goods and chattels, with power to grant and assign lands, etc. by the aforesaid name, and to plead and be impleaded in all courts and in all suits.

And that they have a common seal, which seal at their pleasure they may destroy, change or alter.

And one of the burgesses shall be called Mayor and two shall be chosen and called bailiffs, and there shall be twenty-four men, inhabiting in the borough who shall be called Aldermen, and the Mayor shall be deemed to be one of the Aldermen; and there shall be forty-eight others, inhabiting in the borough, called The Company of eight and fortie, and these forty-eight shall be called the Common Council of the borough, and shall help the Mayor and Aldermen in all matters touching the borough.

The Mayor and Aldermen and their successors or the more part of them shall have full power to grant and make from time to time such laws and regulations as shall seem to them useful and salutary, for the good government of the inhabitants and artificers of the borough, both for the victualling of the borough and for the disposal of lands given to the Mayor, bailiffs and burgesses.

And that the said Mayor and Aldermen and their successors or the more part of them may inflict penalties and imprison offenders against such laws, provided the laws be not contrary to the laws of the realm.

And for the better executing these our grants we assign and nominate our beloved Thomas Clark Mayor of the said borough to be the first and present Mayor of the borough, and the said Thomas Clark shall continue in the office of Mayor from the granting of these presents till the feast of St Matthew next following and upon the said feast some other Aldermen shall be chosen to his office.

We also nominate and make Thomas Chettle, now Alderman, and James Andrew, one of the forty-eight, to be the two first and present bailiffs to remain in office till the feast of St Matthew.

We have appointed Thomas Clarke, now Mayor, and our well-beloved Will. Norrice, James Clarke, John Stanford, Geo. Tatam, Rob. Heirick, Will. Morton, James Ellis, Will. Ludlam, Ralph Chettel, Will. Yates, Tho. Nixe, Edw. Newcome, Rob. Gillot, Will. Rows, Hugh Hunter, John Mabbs, Francis Watts, the said Tho. Chettel (one of the bailiffs), Tho. Manby, Liben Chamberleyn, Will. Warde, Tho. Chapman, John Freake, now Aldermen, to be the first twenty-four Aldermen for life during good conduct.

We have appointed our well-beloved Geo. Brooke, Tho. Heirick, Ric. Archer, Will. Biggs, Valentine Wells, Ric. Barstall, Tho. Hunt, Rob. Woolley, John Bennett, John Woodford, Rob. Atton, Mic. Thornton, Ric. Stanford, James Andrew (one of the bailiffs), Arth. Tatam, Hen. Halpeny, Will. Stanley, Joh. Spencer, Reg. Fausit, Hugh Marshal, John Brighte, Ant. Webster, Tho. Pate, John Lawnder,

Christopher Nedam, Tho. Taylor, Christopher Hallifield, John Eyrick, Barth. Middleton, Hen. Pennington, Will. Okes, Wiat Fowler, Will. Vickers, Tho. Paynter, John Pare, Rob. Crosby, Geo. Greene, Edm. Abney, Ralph Orton, Tho. Stanford, Rob. Johnson, John Buggs, Nic. Gillott, Will. Jee, Ric. Normande, Thos. Yonge, Ralph Chettell, John Hynde, to be the Forty-eight for life during good conduct.

We will that the Mayor and Aldermen and Forty-eight and their successors, or the more part of them, shall have power to elect on St Matthew's day, in the Guildhall or other convenient place to be assigned, one of the Aldermen to be Mayor in the following year, who shall take an oath on the Gospels before the last Mayor, or in his absence before the Aldermen and burgesses assembled, to execute his office duly. Likewise they shall have power to elect two burgesses as bailiffs, to be sworn in the presence of the Aldermen and Forty-eight.

If the Mayor should die during office or be removed from office, the Aldermen and Forty-eight may elect another within fourteen days, to hold office for the rest of the year.

If a bailiff should die or be removed from office, at the pleasure of the Mayor and Aldermen or the more part of them, another may be elected to office for the rest of the year.

If any of the Aldermen die or are removed from office at the pleasure of the Mayor and Aldermen or the more part of them, the Mayor and Aldermen or the more part of them may elect a burgess to fill his place.

If any of the Forty-eight die or are removed from office at the pleasure of the Mayor and Aldermen or the more part of them, the Mayor and Aldermen or the more part of them may elect a burgess to fill his place.

We will that the Mayor, bailiffs and burgesses shall have a man learned in the laws of England to be called Recorder, and we have appointed Ric. Parkyns Esq. to be the first and present recorder for life, and he shall swear before the Mayor to execute his office faithfully, and on his death the Mayor and Aldermen may elect his successor.

And we will that the Mayor, bailiffs and burgesses shall have one learned in the laws of England to be called Steward, and we have appointed Thomas Ward gent. to be the first, and he may appoint a deputy and he or his deputy shall be sworn. On his death or removal the Mayor and Aldermen may elect his successor.

The Mayor, bailiffs and burgesses shall have also a common clerk and protonotary, and we have appointed Will. Derrick<sup>1</sup> gent. as the

<sup>1</sup> *i.e.* Dethick.

first for life, and he shall be sworn, and the Mayor and Aldermen or the more part of them may appoint his successor.

And there shall be five serjeants at mace to make proclamations and arrests and to execute processes, and keep the boundaries, to be elected by the Mayor and Aldermen. They shall attend the Mayor and bailiffs and be sworn in before the Mayor and Aldermen. They shall carry silver-gilt maces ornamented with the arms of the realm of England.

And we will that the Mayor, bailiffs and burgesses shall hold in the Guildhall a court of record on Monday in very week or oftener at their will, before the Mayor, Recorder, Bailiffs, and Steward, or one of them, and hold all pleas of trespass, actions on the case, or of debt, account, covenant, fraud, detinue, and contract, arising within the borough, as fully as of yore, and that any person can implead anyone having rents or lands within the borough concerning the same, by procuring a writ of right patent from the Chancery, having promised to sue his plea on that writ, in manner of a writ of assize, of novel disseisin, of mort d'ancestor, or other action or writ at common law, and that such pleas, both real, personal and mixed, shall be heard before the Mayor, Recorder, Bailiffs, and Steward, or one of them in the Guildhall or elsewhere, according to the law and custom of the realm, as fully as in any other court of record. The serjeants at mace shall do what is needful touching the juries, panels, inquests, attachments, etc. as in other courts of record.

The Mayor, Recorder and four Aldermen who last were Mayors shall be Justices of the Peace to execute the statutes of vagabonds, artificers and labourers, and keep and correct the weights and measures, and any three of them (of whom the Mayor and Recorder shall be two) may hear all matters which belong to the office. But the Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen may not proceed without special mandate to determine any murder or felony or other cause touching life and limb.

The Mayor, bailiffs and burgesses shall have the View of Frankpledge twice a year in the month of Easter and of Michaelmas, before the Mayor or Recorder or Steward.

We will that no merchant or any man who is not a freeman of the borough may use any trade or buy or sell other than in gross, except only in fair time, unless he has obtained the licence of the Mayor, bailiffs and burgesses.

We will that all the houses etc. within the parish of St Margaret called in English The Bishop's Fee, and within the parishes of

St Mary, St Leonard and the Newark, with their occupants shall be under the rule of the Mayor, bailiffs and burgesses of the borough, with the same powers as are enjoyed within the borough, without prejudice to the rights of our heirs and successors and saving the rights granted heretofore to others.

Whereas we learn that much harm arises within the borough to the terror of the burgesses, by reason that certain persons, forgetful of the common weal and state of the borough, and greedy of their own profit, have built ovens for grain called *Mault killnes* to dry barley and other grain, causing risk of fire, we order that no malt kiln be built or used unless it be 30 yards distant from any building, under a penalty of 6s. 8d.

For the relief of the poor and of sick men and women dwelling in Leicester, we grant that the Mayor, bailiffs and burgesses may have a woolmarket for the purchase and sale of wool, woollen thread, and yarn, provided such market damage no neighbouring market, and any subject may buy wool, woollen thread and yarn brought into Leicester on the days appointed, when fairs and markets are held, and may sell the same again or use it in any way, the statute of 5 Ed. VI.<sup>1</sup> or any other statute notwithstanding. Further we will that all tolls, stallages, pickages, fines, ameracements, profits, etc. arising out of the said market shall be used for the profit of the poor and sick men and women within the borough.

We have confirmed to the Mayor, bailiffs and burgesses and their successors all the lands, etc. liberties, etc. and jurisdictions which they or the Mayor and burgesses or the burgesses under whatever name or by pretext of whatever incorporation, have or ought to have held hitherto, by grant of any of our ancestors, for the same rents and payments as were paid heretofore. Without fine into the hanaper.

Box 9 A, No. 8. A copy of part of the above charter endorsed "Branches of the Charter 41 Eliz. opposed, viz. the Stewardship and Court, the Bishops fee and forreyne tradinge."

#### CCCLXXXI. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 160. [June 20, 1599<sup>2</sup>.] *Soldiars*. Soldyars appoynted by lettres from the Right Honorable George Earle of Huntingdon, viz.

Muskitt. Thomas Fenton, seruaunt to Robert Browne, shoemaker.

Muskitt. Edwarde Cheyney, seruaunt to Nicholas Burkitt, currior.

<sup>1</sup> Cap. 7. "What person may buy and sell wool and who not, and at what times."

<sup>2</sup> Also in Hall Papers II, No. 601.



Pike. John Tompson, laboror.

Theise are furnished as followeth, viz.

Twöe with muskittes and one with a pike, havinge swordes, daggers, blew cotes lyned with yellow cotton and blue and yellue rybbyn and weare sent to Ashbie to the said Earle on Thursdaie the 21 of June 99. And from thence are presentlie with the Cuntrie<sup>1</sup> Soldiars (beinge in all 100) to goe into Ireland, etc.

(p. 161.) [June 26, 1599.] <sup>2</sup>Att this Common Hall it is agreed to make choyce of tenne parsons oute of the two Companies, to lett, sett and sell land by lease for terme of xxi<sup>ti</sup> yeares, or in fee farme. (The Graunges, shambles and draporie, sheepe pennes, The howsse called St Maries Close and the tithes of the same, and St Johns and the Close therevnto belonginge, excepted oute of theire authoritie.) And theire authorityte to stand vntill Maie Daie next, for them, or the greater parte of them.

The Commissioners names, viz.

Of the xxiiii <sup>ti</sup>	Of the xlviii <sup>ti</sup>
Mr Elliott	George Brooke } Camerarii for
Mr Thomas Chettell	Thomas Eyricke } the tyme beinge
Mr Thomas Manbye	John Bonnett
Mr John Wilne	James Andrewe
Mr Freake	Will <sup>m</sup> Stanley.

Also at this Common Hall it is agreed that the Commissioners above named shall nowe presentlie after this Common Hall, survey the Towne Lande and howses dekeyed and to take order the same maye bee presentlye reformed and amended.

Hall Papers II, No. 613. [Aug. 17, 1599.] Hit ys nowe agreed that Mr Maior, Mr Thomas Clarke, Mr Heyrycke, Mr Morton, Mr Yates and Mr Nixe shall taxe bothe the Companyes [for the]<sup>3</sup> payment of the townes debt and gifture towards the Earle of Huntingdon<sup>4</sup>.

Also ytt ys nowe agreed that John Hall, that married Henrye Wormoldes wief, shall paye for his fredom *v/z.* and no lesse.

<sup>5</sup>Also yt ys agreed that Mr John Wilne the Bayllyffe shall have a bond from the corporation as vnder the towne seale, for the quiet enjoyng of his office duringe his lief, and the profytts thereof by his counsell shalbee devysed in that behalf.

<sup>1</sup> cuntrie = county.

<sup>2</sup> Also in Hall Papers II, No. 603.

<sup>3</sup> faded.

<sup>4</sup> Hall Book III, p. 161, adds "and shall also tax the Commoners to the same."

<sup>5</sup> And in Hall Book III, p. 161.

CCCLXXXII. *Examination before the Justices.*

Hall Papers II, No. 612. [Aug. 15, 1599.] One George Witham of Doufell<sup>1</sup> in the county of Nottingham, gentleman. The said George Witham beinge demaunded when he cam to this towne of Leicester, saythe vpon Tuesdaye last and then laye at Thomas Overendes, and of Wednesdaye rydd to Bosworthe, and from thence cam backe ageyne to Leicester, and there laye that night at (blank), and of Thursdaye last was at (blank), and of Frydaye last was att Mountsorell, and of Sayturdaye, Sundaye, Mondaye and Tuesdaye last hathe beene in Leicester: and beinge demaunded what busynes he had to staye, saythe to speak with the Earle of Huntingdon and Sir Edward Hastings, Knight.

This examine hathe greatly abused the mynysters and others, with verye bad and lewde wordes.

Also he hathe said that the Earle of Lincolne<sup>2</sup> was a base fellowe with other badd wordes ageynst his honor, in the hearinge of Mr Maior and Mr Heyrycke in Mountsorell.

Also vpon Mondaye last, att Mr Hunters howsse, he spake very badd and lewde wordes ageynst the Lorde Burley and Sir Robert Cecill, Knight, sayinge the Cecills wold have all. These wordes Mr Boothe, the preacher, ys wytnes of.

Also of Sundaye night last, he said to Mr Mayor, I have bene at your crosse, but there ys no crosse on hit, but I have crost it. I have sett crosses eynowe on hit I woulde see, and all the Pewrytynes in your towne will doe as muche.

The aforesaid examine commytted to the Queenes Maiesties gaole of the towne of Leycester, there to remayne withoute bayle or mayneprise, vntill suche tyme as he doe putt in good and suffycient suertyes for his good behaviour towards our soueraigne ladye the Queenes Maiestie and all her liedge people, etc.

(17 Aug.) The aforesaid examynate released vpon his submyssyon.

CCCLXXXIII. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 162. [Sep. 9, 1599.] (Death of George Tatam noted.)

[Sep. 10, 1599<sup>3</sup>.] *Clericus Marcatorum.* Memorandum that vpon Mondaye the x<sup>th</sup> daie of Septembre aboue written 1599, the Clarke

<sup>1</sup> ? Duffield, co. Derby.

<sup>2</sup> Henry Clinton.

<sup>3</sup> Also in Hall Papers II, No. 625.

of the markitt of the howsholde of our soveraigne Ladye the Queenes Maiestie for this her highnes realme of England, called Richard Daies, Esquior, who by vertue of his office and of lettres to him directed vnder divers of the handes of the Lordes and others of the Privie Councell, cam to this towne of Leicester to Mr Thomas Clarke, Maior, to see and haue a vewe and triall of all the standerdes of weightes and measures within this towne, that the same bee lafull and accordinge to the standerdes of her Exchequer, wherevpon Mr Maior made his repaior to the Towne Hall, and there in the presence of himselfe, and of Mr Will<sup>m</sup> Norice and Mr Thomas Chettell, two of the Aldermen of the same towne, did shoue forthe vnto the said Clarke of the markett and to one Mr Walles his deputie Clarke of the markett for the Countie of Leicester, all the waightes and standerdes of the said towne of Leicester, viz. The brason gallon, the brason strike, the brason yard wand, and a quarte of brasse, and also all the newe brason waightes. The whiche said brason strike, gallon, and yarde, weare all founde good parfitt and lafull measures accordinge to the standerdes and measures of the said Clarke of the markitt, the which together with all the aforesaid waightes weare allowed by the said Clarke of the markitt. Butt the brason quarte (beinge fownde to litle) was not allowed, but condemned. And the wooden strike made oute of or by the said brason strike (beinge measured and tried by the said Clarke of the markitt) was fownd to bigge by three pintes, for which cawse the same was condemned and not allowed, and commandement given by the said Clarke of the markitt vnto the said Mr Maior, that he shoulde presentlie either cause a newe strike to bee made, or else the olde strike to bee amended, and made parfitt and lafull, and to bee measured and tried as well by the brason gallon, as also by the brason strike, and to bee made parfitt and iuste by them. And therevpon to make all the strikes, peckes, gallons, quartes and pyentes within this buroughe of Leicester, sorteable and lafull measures accordinge to the standerdes aforesaid. Noe gallon or strike, to be made in anye wise of bigger or lesser quantetie, then accordinge to the said brason gallon and strike, and the said newe strike to bee made, or else the olde amended before Sayturdaye next, in defaulte whereof the brason strike to be hounge in the open markitt place, accordinge to the statute in that case made and provided. Given vnto the said Clarke of the markytt in rewarde, xxs. sterlinge, etc.

(Freedoms) 1598—9. (p. 163.) Thomas Jesson, clarke, vicar of St Nicholas in Leycester, made free, his fyne xs. Jur'. xiii.

John Wylne gentleman Baylliffe of our soveraigne ladye the Queenes Maiestie within the libertie to the towne of Leicester, made free, his fyne—A pottell of wyne. Jur'. *vid.* non solut'.

John Fawne, head schoolmaster, made free, his fyne xs. Jur'. *vid.*

Thomas Warde, the Stwarde of Towne Corte, made free, his fyne—A pottell of wyne. Jur'.

[Sep. 21, 1599.] *Quarter Sessions.* (p. 167.) Item it is now agreed to holde a sessions upon Mondaie (Oct. 16) and so quarterlye afterwarde without anye dynner to be kepte by the Maior, savinge onely that Mr Maior shall then dyne the Recorder.

Hall Papers II, Nos. 621 and 715. [Sep. 22, 1599.] (*Glovers.*) (After a list of names.) By all theise agreed, att the suyte and offer of Robert Eryrcke of Mountsorell, glover, and for and in consyderacion of ten glovers of the cuntrye to com and dwell in this burghe of Leicester, and of fyfthe powndes of lawfull Englishe monye, to bee payd to the Maior, Baylliffes and Burgesses of the said burghe: All the glovers of the cuntrye to be kepte oute of Leicester from trafique theire (savinge the fayore dayes), sixe glovers oute of Loughborowe excepted, which shall have libertye by the said Maior, Baylliffes and Burgesses, to frequent the markyttes in Leicester, as they have vsed heretofore.

Hall Book III, p. 168. [Sep. 29, 1599.] The Maior elected and other officers lately chossen accordinge to our newe Chartre nowe sworne and other matters nowe agreed upon as followeth, viz.

Inprimis the articles indented betwene the Maior and burgesses of the buroughe of Leicester, and the glovers of the same, weare nowe openlie readde, yett not agreed vpon, but referred vntill the Recorders comminge, and then to be agreed vpon by the consent of Mr Maior, the Recorder, and Aldermen, with the assistance of the XLVIII<sup>th</sup>.

Item it is also agreed that the glovers of the towne shall waye no wooll att their howses, butt onlie in the Wooll Hall, from tyme to tyme for ever, vpon payne of vis. viii*d.* and their shall sell the said wooll, if they can.

Item at this present Thomas Warde made the Steward of the Towne Courte and a Maiors brother and thereupon sworne the othe of the Aldermen and also to the supremacye.

(Note of the death of Mr James Clark, Alderman, Oct. 16, 1599<sup>1</sup>.)

<sup>1</sup> And in Hall Papers II, No. 633.

CCCLXXXIV. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1598—9.] *Receipts* £439. 18s. 8½*d.*

...*Payments*... Sir E. Hastings for one yeeres rent... for fynes amerciaments felons goods and other casualties... £10.

*Guiftes*... Earle of Penbrucke his playars 13s. 4*d.* Earle of Darbye his playars which did not playe att the towne hall 10s.... Aboute our closes in or neire the Forreste or Frythe... Earle of Huntingdon for a newyeeres guifte in goulde £5.... Lorde Crumwell att his goinge into Irelande 2 Ap.... Mr Archedeacon Johnson<sup>1</sup> and Mr Docter Chippingdale att the vizitacion... Lorde Darsies players who did not playe 10s.... Mr Graye preacher who made a sarmonde att Sancte Martins... Mr Morton the preacher...

*Closes* (details of legal expenses).

*Soldiars*... *Trayning*...

*Reparacions*... varnishinge of the Quenes armes and paynetinge of twoe papers to sett on Mary Smiths heade and John Wilkinsons the glover 3s.... flortlie att the towne hall after the saltpeterman 8*d.*... Sainte Johns called the Wool hall<sup>2</sup>... serchinge for water att the toppe of the hill towards Knighton...

*Fees, wages etc.*... bayliffs or officers of v markitt townes for the proclaymyng of our wooll hall<sup>3</sup> (expenses on the new charter)... Welche bayes<sup>4</sup> for a gowne... to carte Marye Smythe and John Wilkinson glover... aboute the discharge of the Bysshoppes Fee from the taxacion of the subsidye with that parte of the countie<sup>4</sup>...

*Totall*... £430. 0s. 8½*d.*

CCCLXXXV. *Petition concerning the Commission for Subsidies.*

Hall Papers II, No. 627. [? Oct. 1599.] Instructions towchinge the renewinge of the Commission for the taxacion of the subsidies within the towne of Leicester etc.

Firste for as muche as it hath pleased the Quenes Maiestie to graunte vnto the Maior and Burgesses of the towne of Leicester, a newe graunte or charter by the name of the borroughe of Leicester with addicion of newe liberties thereunto, viz. the parishe of St Margaret, commonly called the Bishoppes fee, the parishe of St Marie, St Leonarde, and the Newarke in the same burgh of Leicester: That

<sup>1</sup> Robert Johnson, founder of Uppingham and Oakham Schools.

<sup>2</sup> See above, pp. 281, 364.

<sup>3</sup> baize.

<sup>4</sup> See p. 364.

therefore it maie please the right honorable the lord Keper<sup>1</sup>, to renewe the commission for the taxation of the second subsidie within the said towne of Leicester, by the name of the borroughe of Leicester, the parishe of St Margaret, the Bishoppes fee, the parishe of St Marie, the parishe of St Leonarde and the Newarke in the said burroughe of Leycester, as well within liberties as withoute.

And for that Fraunces Browne, one of the commissioners for the towne of Leicester, mencioned in the commission for the taxation of the second subsidie, ys deade, that therefore it wolde please his honor, to appoynt some other in his steede for the better service of her Maiestie in that behalf, which if it please his honor maye bee theise—viz. The Maior of the towne of Leicester; Thomas Cave; Richard Parkyns, Recorder of the burroughe aforesaid; Henrye Cave, George Bellgrave, James Clarke, Robert Heyrycke and William Morton; or others, at his honors pleasure.

Also that it wold stand with his honors good favour, to except the said burghe and liberties oute of the commission for the countie of Leicester.

Also that it may please his honor to cause to bee deliuered and sent vnto the said newe commissioners ii or iii of these subsidie bookes, for there better proceedinge and instructions in that behalf.

And further if it shall stand with his honors good likinge, to graunte and directe his honors lettre or *superscadias* to Mr Thomas Cave and the commissioners for the countye of Leicester, not to entermeadle within the aforesaid liberties, for the assessinge of the subsidye etc.<sup>2</sup> But that the inhabitantes therein may from henceforthe be taxed with the inhabitantes of the burghe of Leicester, as parcell of the said burghe accordinge to the said newe graunte.

Endorsed: "Towchinge the Renuynge of the Commyssyon for the subsidyes to joyne thereunto the newe libertyes."

#### CCCLXXXVI. *Mistress Clarke's case*<sup>3</sup>.

Hall Papers II, No. 629. The sayinges of Christofer Becke of Leicester, shoemaker, the x<sup>th</sup> of October (1599).

The said examynate saythe, that aboute three yeares past, he said that Mistris Clarke, the wief of Mr Thomas Clarke of the Blue Bore in Leycester, cam to the dwellinge howsse of one Craddocke in Leicester, and demaunded rent of the wief of the said Craddocke, for

<sup>1</sup> Sir Thos. Egerton.

<sup>2</sup> MS. *ect.*

<sup>3</sup> See above, pp. 351—2.

the said howsse, (the said Craddocke beinge then not att whom) Craddockes wief answered and said, she had no rent, but further answered she wold paye itt when shee had itt, and further said the howsse was the Queenes, wherevpon (he saythe) the said Mistris Clarke said, shee sholde have a rope, shee should have no howsse there; and more (he saythe) he can not saye.

(Signed with Beck's mark.)

Jone Craddocke saythe, that old Worshippe cam to her howsse and said, "it ys told me that Mistris Clarke shoulde saye to you, the Queene shall have a rope, before shee shall have my housse," and therevpon the said Mr Worshippe dyd will her to speake the wordes before Mr Thomas Wylne; and further she saythe, shee had never sturde<sup>1</sup> therein, but only for the said old Worshippe; and further she saythe the said Worshippe willed the said Thomas Wilne to bere wytnes of her sayinge, which the said Thomas Wilnes said he wold never doe.

No. 651. The examynacion of Robertt Craddocke of the Burrowe of Leicester, cutler, taken the v<sup>th</sup> daye of November (1599).

The said examynate beinge demaunded what he can sey ageynst Thomas Clarke, one of the Aldermen of the said burgh of Leycester saythe, that if hee doe maynetayne that cawse, that his wief dyd speake, which weare these wordes, viz.: that before the Queenes Maiestie shoulde have any howsse of hers, she sholde have a rope, then he ys a traitor, and this he will stand to, and more he seythe he can not saye.

No. 652. The sayinges or reexamynacion of Christofer Becke of the Burghe of Leicester aforesaid, shoemaker, taken the vii<sup>th</sup> day of November (1599).

The said examynate saythe, that abowte iii yeres past Anne Clarke the wief of Thomas Clarke of Leycester, inholder, come to hym this examynate (he then beinge in the church yard of St Nycholas in Leycester) and willed hym to goe with her to Craddockes howsse, for that she wold caste her owte of the said howsse, wherevpon he saythe he went with the said Mistris Clarke into the said howsse, at which tyme Craddockes wief beinge in the said howsse, Mistris Clarke said to her, "I am come to have my rent"; then Craddockes wief answered sayinge, "I have it not readye but you shall have it so sone as I can gett yt readye." Mistris Clarke then said, "you shall not staye here any longer," and withall began to throwe oute her goodes. Then Craddockes wief said vnto Mistris

<sup>1</sup> sturde = stirred.

Clarke, "lett my goodes alone, for the howsse is none of yours, ytt ys the Queenes, God save her," then Mistris Clarke answered and said, "the Queene shall have no howsse here, shee shall have a rope before."

CCCLXXXVII. *Letters to and from the Earle on the Spital and Woolhall keeper.*

Hall Papers II, No. 643. [Oct., 1599.] To the right honorable the Earle of Huntingdon, Lord Leutenaunte of her Maiesties Countie of Leicester etc.

In moste humble wise complayninge shewe vnto your good lordshippe, your honors dayly suppliantes the Maior, Baylies and Burgesses of the burrowe of Leicester, that whereas the spitle house by Leicester hath heretofore byn relieved by the treasurers of the countie with an yerely pension of xiili., so yt is nowe, may yt please your good lordshippe, that some of the countie, male content as (savage your lordshippes favor) yt may seeme, with oure state by oure newe Charter, doe make some question of any further allowance thereof by the countie, and wold impose that burden also from henceforthe vpon oure so muche surcharged poore Corporacion to the vtter ruyn thereof, yf by your lordshippes most honorable protection herein wee be not releived: In tender commiseracion whereof may yt please your good lordshippe to order the payment of the said pension by the countie as heretofore yt hath bene, and the rather for that by reason of the late deare yeeres and late statut in restraint of erectinge of cottages<sup>1</sup>, the multitude of oure owne impotent helples poore is infinite and of the late statut for setlinge them, their burden intollerable and thereby we nowaye able to relieve the poore of the spitle, who are almoste sterved by reason the countie doeth restrayn them. The poore corporacion of Leicester shalbe still more bounden dayly to pray to God longe to protecte your lordshippe in all earthly honour and in hevenly felicitie for ever to endure.

Your honors most humble to command

Edwerd Newcome, Maior.

The humble petition of the Maior, Bayliffes and Burgesses of the burrowe of Leicester.

Hall Papers II, No. 645. [Oct. 14, 1599.] Mr Maior, I am told that there is a woll house erected within your towne of Leicester, and that you and the rest of the bretheren are to elect, and chuse one to

<sup>1</sup> 31 Eliz. c. 7.



have the office of the waigheinge of y<sup>e</sup> wooll. My desire is that you woulde make your choice (y<sup>e</sup> rather at my request) of y<sup>e</sup> bearer hereof Clement Charde, to execute the said place. He is a townes man and as I am credibly informed, on very fitt to discharge the said office. Thus not doubtinge your accomplyshement hereof, I bidd you farewell. Asheby de la Zouch y<sup>e</sup> xiiii<sup>th</sup> October, 99.

Your frende

George Huntingdon.

Ibid. No. 647. [Oct. 28, 1599.]<sup>1</sup> Right honorable, our humble dewtie remembred etc. whereas yt hath pleased your lordshippe to write your honors lettre in the behalfe of Clement Chard for the kepinge of our woolle Hall: May yt please your good lordshippe to be advertized, that vpon conference had in this behalfe, it appeared that Okes claymed the same place by a former promise, which albeit vpon some condicions yt was not altogether gaynesaid yet nowe in regard of his vnnaturall dealinge in promotinge the suite for the tolle<sup>2</sup>, and of his vntractablenes to extinguishe the same agayne, (albeit otherwise he be thought a fit man for that place), that promise is by common consent disclaymed, and so nowe yt is (may yt please your good lordship) that wayenge the present necessitie of gayninge name and credit of tradinge in our woole hall which (vnder your lordships correction) we iudge will no waye so well be effected as by placinge suche officers in the same as by reason of their speciall credit and acquayntance with clothiers and others may be a meanes to procure chapmandrie<sup>3</sup>, and by reason of their trayninge vp, and experience in wools, doe knowe howe to vse the same with indifferenc towards all parties, which thinges with some other wantes are findinge wantinge in Mr Chard: Wee have therefore (may yt please your lordship) by common concent made choyce of some suche of oure Companie to execute that place for this yeare as will, wee hope, satisfie our expectacion herein. And yet not forgettinge Mr Chard, but at your lordships request restinge readie to pleasure him in a place better sortinge with his degree, and more answerable to his trayninge, and I thinke more profitable then that, as occasion shall serve, and he can conforme himselfe fitt for the libertie thereof, as theis bearers (yf yt please your lordship) will more at large informe your honor. And thus with remembrance of our humble dewtie restinge readie to

<sup>1</sup> The date appears from a note in Hall Papers II, No. 648, on the sending of this letter.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 374.

<sup>3</sup> Chapmanry, trade.

gratifie your lordship in any thinge we may, wee humbly take our leave. From Leicester this (blank) of October, 1599.

Your lordships most humble to command.

[Endorsed with the names of the Mayor and Brethren: to the Earl of Huntingdon.]

### CCCLXXXVIII. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Papers II, No. 632 *b*. [Oct. 16, 1599.] The cawse of this meetinge of the Maior, Recorder and Aldermen was for dyvers cawses of the townes, viz. Fyrst with William Okes, concernyng the suyte for the tole, to be put to the heyringe of ii indifferent men: it ys nowe agreed that there shalbee ii chosen to desyde and end the contraversie for tole, viz. the towne to make choyse of one, and Okes to make choyse of one other.

William Okes saythe that y<sup>e</sup> bookebynder of Atherton told hym y<sup>at</sup> vpon Maye Daye last, he payd for his standinge in Leicester (to y<sup>e</sup> officers of the fayor) *iiid.* and they wold have had more.

Mr George Belgrave Esq. chosen for the towne and Mr Wintche of Lincolns In, Recorder of Bedford, chosen of William Okes parte, to desyde all controversies this terme for the tole, etc.

Hall Book III, p. 169<sup>1</sup>. [Oct. 19, 1599.] (*Glovers.*) At this mitinge was sealed and delyvered the Articles indented of agreement, made betweene the Maior, Bayliffes and Burgesses of the said Buroughe of Leicester of the one parte, and the Glovers of the said Buroughe of Leicester of the other parte, etc. (under a bond of £100 from each side).

*For wayinge of [wool] att the Wooll Hall.* [Oct. 24, 1599.] Item it is agreed that euerye stonne or todde of wooll either fleece woll, or pelte wooll, which shalbe at anye tyme hereafter brought to this Buroughe to bee solde, shalbe wayed att the Wooll Hall in the same Burrowe vpon payne of *iiis. iiid.* for everie stonne, and of *vis. viiij.* for everie todde. And the Glovers of this Burrowe of Leycester to waye their wooll in the said Wooll Hall vpon the peynalties aforesaid. And that our other townesmen whiche have wooll to sell, shall also waye the same in the said Wooll Hall vpon the payne aforesaid. And it is agreed that Bartholmewe Myddleton and Henrie Butterfield shall have the kepinge, orderinge and wayinge of the wooll at the

<sup>1</sup> And in Hall Papers II, No. 636.

said Wooll Hall vntill Michaellmas next, and shall have the profittes of the wayinge for their paynes, etc.

*Glovers.* [Oct. 20, 1599.] The Glovers of the cuntrie discharged from trafique in our markitt in their trade, etc.

(*Orders regulating trade*) (p. 170). <sup>1</sup>[Oct. 26, 1599.] Orders nowe made and agreed vpon by the Maior and Aldermen aboue named as followeth viz. :—

Firste it is nowe agreed vpon by the said Maior and Aldermen, that all suche as are free Burgesses of the Burrowe of Leicester and dwellinge fourthe of the libertie thereof, and bee tradesmen, shall before the Feast daie of Saynt Thomas thappostell next comynge, come, inhabite and dwell within some parte of the said Burrowe of Leicester or the liberties thereof. Or else shall from thence forthe be disfraunchised of their freedome for everr.

Item it is also agreed that no butcher of the cuntrie shall from henceforthe bringe any fleshe into the markett to sell within this Burrowe, but shall bringe with hym the hide, fell, skynne and tallowe of the same fleshe, their (bona-fide with oute frawde or coven<sup>2</sup>) to bee solde, vpon payne of everie default viz. viii*d.* to the vse of the Chamber of this Burrowe of Leycester.

Also their is nowe chosen and appoynted to make serche for the same vpon everie Sayturdaye weekelye, foure sufficient persons viz. a tanner, a glover, a chaundler, and a butcher, viz. Hughe Marshall, tanner, John Eyricke, glover, Thomas Noone, chaundler, and John Adcocke, butcher.

Also further it is agreed, that if the said Hughe Marshall, John Eyricke, Thomas Noone and John Adcocke, or any of them shall refuze or make defaulte in the said sertche vpon everie Sayturdaye weekelye, than he or they so refuzinge or neelectinge the same, to forfitt to the Chamber of this Burrowe of Leicester for euerye defaulte iiis. iiiii*d.* And shall, the same daie of their serche, make presentment of the defaultes to Mr Maior, vpon the like payne of iiis. iiiii*d.*

Hall Papers II, No. 642. (*Proclamation of the same.*) [Oct. 27, 1599.] A note of the publicacion of certen orders and decrees made by Mr Maior and his bretheren of the said burrowe, the xxvii<sup>th</sup> day of October (1599) in manner and forme followeing, viz., one oyes<sup>3</sup> and then saye:—

Knowe all persons, that Mr Maior and his bretheren, of this her

<sup>1</sup> Hall Papers II, Nos. 641, 644 and 664.

<sup>2</sup> deceit.

<sup>3</sup> The crier's "oyez."

Maiesties burrowe of Leicester, by vertue of this her Maiesties lettres patentés, vnder her highnes greate seale of England, in this behalfe granted, have ordered and decreed that, etc.

And God save the Queene. And then one oyes more and then say :—

Further knowe yee, that Mr Maior and his bretheren by vertue of her Maiesties said lettres patentés have likewise ordered and decreed that, etc.

And God save the Queene.

CCCLXXXIX. *Suit to the Common Oven.*

Hall Papers II, No. 736. [Oct. 31, 1599.] After our hartie commendacions, whereas certaine variances have latelie depended in the Duchie Chamber at Westminster, betwene Thomas Hunt, Roger Hall, and others bakers of your towne, plaintiffs, and William Beckett weaver of the same towne, defendant, aboute the baking of spiced breade and cakes and other smale thinges of like nature, not therby withdrawing suche sute as, with baking of his other breade, is due to the common backhowse there, wherewith the saide bakers seeme not to be contented: In respecte whereof we are to require yow, y<sup>at</sup> yow take suche order with the saide bakers, that yow and they permitt the saide Beckett to bake suche smale thinges (as he hath vsed in your towne) in his owne howse, as divers others in that towne have done, which in our opinyons maie be done in some measuer, considering how the price of corne is fallen, withoute preiudice either to your corporacion or the said bakers of the said towne. Of your accomplishment whereof in some moderate sorte we doe not doubte. From Westminster, this last of October, 1599.

Your loving frendes

Rob. Clerke

Jo. Savile

Ja. Brograve.

CCCXC. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 170. (*Glovers.*) [Nov. 3, 1599.] Also nowe agreed to send for proces ageynst the glovers of the cuntrie which have had discharge from trafique in our markitt etc.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> In Hall Papers II, Nos. 666—670, are lists of glovers buying skins in Leicester market without licence, Nov. 3, 1599.

(*Fine for buying fells.*) (p. 171.) [Nov. 9, 1599.] <sup>1</sup>Memorandum that at this meetinge John Hoode and John Thurman of Mownt-sorell, glovers, doe cume in personne and acknowledge that, countrarie to the tenor of our Charter, they did in contempt thereof, vpon Sayturdaye laste, buye certen fells by retayle in the open markitt theire, and therefore do submit themselves to the discreacion of Mr Maior and his bretherne for the ordringe of their contempte in this respecte. Which at the instance of the Right worshipfull Sir Edward Hastings, knight, in their behalfe, and for that they do promys that from henceforthe they will not attempt the like: It is ordered and decreed that their fyne for their said contempt shalbee either of them *vid.* apiece, the whiche they have nowe payde. In witnes whereof they have vnto the said record (remaynyng of the file of this yere) subscribed their names, the daye and yere first aboue written.

(*Glovers.*) [Nov. 14, 1599.] The glovers of Mountsorell and in the cuntrie (except Loughborowe), ageyne discharged from trafique in their trade on the Sayturdaye markitt in the Buroughe of Leycester.

Also our newe charter<sup>2</sup> was nowe openly readd vnto them before Mr Maior and other of his bretherne, in Gaynesborowe Chamber.

Also this daye publication was made in the open markitt of the orders aforesaid.

Hall Papers II, No. 657. [Nov. 15, 1599.] A note of the chardges layd forth for the towne of Leicester in Eeaster and Trinity termes for 2 causes then dependinge in suyte.

Inprimis for thattoreys fees in Easter terme, *vis.* viii*l.*

Item to Mr Hescuitt for a mocion, *xxs.*

Item for enteringe the order and coppie, *iis.* *vi*l.**

Item for coppie of the replicacion for Okes, *ixs.* *iiii*l.**

Item for bringinge downe the portmantu, *viii*l.**

Total 39*s.* 2*l.*

Received of Mr William Heyricke, 40*s.*

This bill of charges delyvered to Mr Newcome, Maior, by Mr Thomas Chettell on Thursdaye the 15 of November, 99.

Hall Papers II, No. 691. [Nov. 16, 1599.] Letter from the Mayor to A. Purvey asking him to view the decay of St Mary's close.

Ibid. No. 692. A similar letter to Mr Brograve Attorney of the Duchy.

<sup>1</sup> Hall Papers II, No. 653.

<sup>2</sup> No. CCCLXXX.

CCCXCI. *Recusant examined and Matchett's case.*

Hall Papers II, No. 673. [Nov. 18, 1599.] One calling himself Walter Barlow<sup>1</sup> examined on suspicion of recusancy. Asked where he was on certain days. Demanded where is his dwellinge saythe, nowe att Applebye in the Countye of Leycester, by the appointment of Mr Wade one of the Clarks to the Councell and of Mr Topley, ii of H. M.'s Commissioners for Recusants, and was discharged by them and sett at libertye on St James Even last, for that he was before that in troble before them for suspicion of a recusant. Refuses to tell his business.

Hall Papers II, No. 676. [Nov. 22, 1599.] The reexamynacion of Walter Barlowe, taken the xxii<sup>th</sup> daie of November (1599).

First the said examynate beinge demaunded where he was borne, answereth and saythe at Meyson<sup>2</sup> in the countye of Derbye, and was the eldest sonne of one William Barlowe of Meason aforesaid, collyar.

Also beinge demaunded, what frendes he hathe in Measam, saythe he hathe a sister there dwellinge, and ys the wief of Olyver Wyldeman, and their he was made a preeste in Queene Maryes tyme.

Item beinge demaunded wheare he hathe contynued for the space of this xii monethes last past, saythe, the Councell, and the Comyssyoners who last examyned hym, best knowethe.

Item beinge demaunded wheare and howe longe he hathe had beades, saythe peradventure he hathe had beades ever sythence he was borne, and beinge asked if the beades fownd vpon him be not hallowed, saythe in very good faythe they are not hallowed, neyther his waxe candle, and that his handkerchewes or lynyns havinge little crosses on them onelye, are for no other vse but for handkerchewes.

Item beinge demaunded wheather is the Pope supream head of the Church ye or no, saythe he hathe answered the same before the Councell all readye, and will therefore answer it no more, and further saythe he was never asked that questyon before.

Also he saythe he dothe take the Queenes Maiestie to be his lawfull prince and that he ys her lawfull subiect.

Also beinge demaunded wheather was the Popes authorityte heretofore over persons and causes ecclesiasticall here in England lawfull, answereth and saythe he knowethe not.

<sup>1</sup> See Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 306.

<sup>2</sup> Measham.

Item wheather hathe the Queenes Maiestie that nowe ys lawfull authorytye over all persons and causes ecclesiasticall in this realme of England and other her Maiesties dominions, answerethe and saythe he will no further answeere before he come before the Judges.

Item beinge demaunded what he dothe thincke of the Queens Maiestie for her professyon of this religion, and whether dothe she err or not, answerethe and saythe he will answer no more questyons.

Item beinge demaunded if he have taken the othe of supremacie to the Queenes Maiestie that nowe ys, answerethe and saythe he will not answer any more.

Item beinge demaunded yf he will nowe receyve the said othe, saythe he will answer no further but that she ys his lawfull Queene.

Item beinge demaunded wheyther he be a recusant papist or not, seythe he ys a preest, and being asked wheather he hathe bene presentted for a recusant or not, saythe he hathe bene in gaole in Stafford, and from thence removed to the Marshallsey, and from thence to Salesburye and from Salesburye to the Marshallsey ageyne.

Hall Papers II, No. 688. [Nov. 23, 1599.] (The Mayor to the Earl.) Right honorable, my humble dutie remembred, may yt please your good lordshippe to be certified that vpon Sondag laste we did vpon suspicion apprehend within oure Corporacion an aged man, a traveyler on horsebacke, apparrelled with a gray frize jerkin, a white canvas dublett, a paire of yellowe leather breeches and a coloured paire of nether stockes with white garters, havinge with him also a cloake bagg, wherein he had shifte of lynnyn, one other white canvas dublett cutt, and a coulored paire of nether stockes, divers popish bookes and pictures, a waxe candle, a wafer boxe, and a holly-water bottle, bothe in a case, and vpon him were founde a paire of beades and another popishe booke, and in money and gold almoste viii*li*, whereof one peece of gold was of the popes owne coyne, and at his ostes house were founde of his a blacke sattin dublett, and a paire of blacke breeches drawn oute with taffatay; Whom we did then examyne and therevpon committ to prison, purposing presently to certifie your lordshippe thereof, but hopinge vpon his reexamination to have bene able more fully to certifie your honor, we stayed for that; the copies of which examinations wee sende your lordshippe herewith, keepinge the man in prison as a dangerous wanderinge popishe recusant, humbly desiringe your lordshippes honoured advise and direction herein, together with your lordshippes warrant for the

serching of suche places without our libertie as your lordshippe shall thinke fitt. And further may yt please your good lordship to be advertized that with privey watche vpon Wednesdaye night laste, I founde one Thomas Matchett of Castle Donnington and one Elizabeth Strelley, dawghter (as she say) of Mr John Strelley of Wynley<sup>1</sup> in Darbieshire, bothe together in one bedde as man and wyfe, whom I stayed and have examined; the copies whereof I send your lorshippe herewith<sup>2</sup>, keepinge Matchett safe in gayle and the gentlewoman in a house of good credit, forbearinge to hold suche course herein<sup>3</sup>, as in suche like lesse abhominable and inordinate conversacion we vsually do take, vntill we further knowe your lordshippes pleasure, for that as Matchet saiethe he dothe belonge to your honor. And thus with remembrance of my dutie humbly desiringe your lordshippes answeere hereof, I humbly take my leave. From Leicester this xxiii<sup>th</sup> of November 1599.

Your honors humble to command

Edw. Newcome, Maior.

Hall Papers II, No. 680. [Nov. 23, 1599.<sup>4</sup>] Mr Maior, I am given to understand that you have taken one Thomas Machett for certaine misdemeanors, committed by him within your towne of Leicester, which yf it be so, I praye you see him safely sent to me, to thende I may take some rounde course with him, aswell for his punishment that way, as allso for some other causes of weighte, in which I have further to deale with him; moreover I am informed that there is a seminarye<sup>5</sup> taken amongste you; yf that be so likewise, I doe not a little marvaile that my selfe beinge the knowen Leiutenant, should not have had both knowledge from you of his apprehendinge and the examinacion of him, before any pettye Justice within your towne or any other Justice, consideringe that in such cases, I houlde my aucthoritye somewhat more then any common Justice amongste you: as is well knowen to you all. Thus wishinge you to send Matchett to me so soone as you can, and for the other matter, thoughe you have not made me acquainted therewith, yet looke to it in such sorte, as that her Maiestie may not bee onely well served in it, but allso you may answeare the cause why you have concealed it from me. And so I committe you to God. Asheby, this xxiii<sup>th</sup> of November.

Your freinde

George Huntingdon.

<sup>1</sup> Windley Hall.

<sup>2</sup> Copies are in Hall Papers, Nos. 674-5.

<sup>3</sup> *i.e.* the carting.

<sup>4</sup> See Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 306, Hall Papers II, Nos. 674-5.

<sup>5</sup> Barlow, of the above case.



Hall Papers II, No. 685. [Nov. 24, 1599.] (The Mayor to the Earl.) Right honorable, my humble dewtie remembred. Maye itt please your good lordshippe, that this presente Sayturdaye I have received your honors lettre of the xxiii<sup>th</sup> of this instant November for the sendinge of Thomas Matchett to your lordshippe. Soe itt is, good my lord, that for his mysdemeyner within our towne, hee was committed to our gaole, as in my late lettre to your lordshippe doth appeyre. Sythence which tyme, there is one John Leytherland hath arrested him vppon an action of debte xx*li*., for whiche also he remeyneth in the gaole, vnder the safe keepinge of the Bayllie for want of suerties, and is personallie to appeire at our nexte Courte, which is on Mondaye nexte, to answere the said action. But before his enlargement<sup>1</sup>, I will take suche order as he shalbee sent over vnto your lordshippe, yf so it bee your pleasure. And as concernyng the semenarie, as your lordshippe wryteth, the cawse whye your honor was no soner certified of him, and sithence by the negligence of the messenger whom I put in truste for the carriage thereof, whoe shall truelie here of the same, as in my said lettre to your honor dothe appeyre. And thus humblye desiringe your honors advice further concerning him, with remembrance of my humble dutie, I humblye take my leave, Leicester this 24 of November 1599.

Your honors humbly to commaunde

(E. Newcome, Mayor).

Hall Papers II, No. 681. [Nov. 24, 1599.] Mr Maior, whereas you have written to me againe, as touchinge Matchet, I woulde have you, sithe there is an account layed vpon him by on Lytherland, to let the lawe take his course, yet after to keepe him safelie, for that as I heare there is other matter then you have written to me in his examynacion, whereof he is suspected, wherewith you have not acquaynted me, which yf I maye vnderstand from others, you shall answere it. Therefore kepe him till you certifie me of y<sup>e</sup> whole, and heare from me againe, for y<sup>at</sup> by his examinacion I finde, you might better have carted him and the whore, rather then have comytted him. For the semenarie, sith you have taken his examinacion (wherein you were too foreward before you had acquaynted me) see that he be safelie kept till you here further from me. And so I bidd you farewell. Ashbye Delazouch the xxiiii<sup>th</sup> November, 1599.

Your frende

George Huntingdon.

<sup>1</sup> setting at large.

Hall Papers II, No. 686. [Nov. 26, 1599.] (The Mayor to the Earl.) Right honorable, my humble dutie remembred ; maye it please your good lordshippe to bee certified that I did truelye certifie your honor of Machette's wholl examynacion taken before me, which I make bolde the rather to affirme, for that before I sent itt, I did see itt examyned and agreeinge with the originall. And for any other matter whereof he then was, or as yett ys, suspected, I neyther then had, nor as yett can gett any knowledge. Restinge readye, if it please your good lordshippe, vpon notice to examyne any further suspicion ageynst hym. Thus with remembrance of my humble dutye, I humbly take my leave. From Leicester this xxvi<sup>th</sup> of November 1599.

Your honors humblye to commande  
 Edwarde Newcome, Maior.

### CCCXCII. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 172. [Nov. 14, 1599.] *Assisa Servicie.* Ale vnder the sive assised att *iiid.* the gallon, howe stronge so ever the same bee, as well of the common brewer, as also of the ordynarie tipler that dothe brewe to retayle in their howsses, vpon payne of *iiis. iiid.* for everie defaulte. And stale ale ys sised at *iiid.* the gallon, howe stronge so ever the same bee, as well of the common Tipler, as by any other victualers that doe brewe stronge ale to sell and retayle in their howses, and so ratably by the quarte and pinte, vpon payne of everie one makinge default for euerye tyme offendinge, *iiis. iiid.*

*Assisa Candilarum.* Candles assised att *iiid.* ob. the pownde, and so ratably by the penyworthe, and halfepenyworthe, vpon payne of *iiis. iiid.* for everie defaulte.

(p. 172.) [Nov. 28, 1599.] <sup>1</sup>*Scarlet gownes*, the fyne *iis. vid.* (etc.). And also it is agreed that they which ought to weare scarlet, shall then weare cappes (if then it rayne not) vpon the like payne of *iis. vid.* for euerye defaulte.

*Gownes and Cappes.* Item it is nowe agreed, that the towe Companies shall att euerye metinge at Common Halles, Sise, Sessions and Faiors, suche as shalbee somoned to attend, shall then weare Gownes and Cappes, vpon [payne] of the *XXIII<sup>ti</sup> xiiid.* apece for euerye defawlt, and of the *XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> vid.* apece for euerye defaulte.

<sup>1</sup> And Hall Papers II, No. 684.

*Mr Bayllye Wilhe.* Item it is nowe also agreed, that Mr Bayllye bond for the quiet enioyinge of his office shalbee sealed and delyvered by Mr Maior, for and in the name of the Maior, Bayllyffes and Burgesses of the Buroughe of Leicester, and as theire acte and deede etc.

<sup>1</sup>[Dec. 17, 1599.] (p. 173.) A meetinge of Mr Maior and others of the Aldermen for, towchinge and conserninge the choyce or election of a Mace-bearer or Sergiant at mace, viz.

Mr Edward Newcom, Maior,	Mr Hughe Hunter,
Mr Will <sup>m</sup> . Noryce,	Mr Thomas Chettell,
Mr Robertt Heyricke,	Mr Thomas Manbye,
Mr Will <sup>m</sup> . Morton,	Mr Will <sup>m</sup> . Warde,
Mr Thomas Clarke,	Mr John Wilne,
Mr James Ellyce,	Mr Thomas Warde,
Mr Ludlam,	Mr John Bonnett.

*Brewers.* Item it is nowe ordeyned and agreed that all suche as have sett vppe to be common brewers sithence Michaellmas last, shalbee supressed. And also that from henceforth theire shall not anye bee suffred to bee a common brewer except by license from the Maior and Aldermen, or the greater parte of them, vppon payne of xls. for everie defawlte, etc.

### CCCXCIII. *Examinations before the Justices.*

Hall Papers II, No. 665 *b*. [Oct. 20, 1599.] A man with freakeld face bought hym sythence Sturbridge fayor about 8 weeks past a myllyon<sup>2</sup> fustion doblett of a cleye colour and a peyre of hose viz. rounde breeches of black fustyon, a black hatt with a loe crowne lyned with velvytt, and a partlytt<sup>3</sup>...and hathe a black cloke with a velvytt cape with iiij laces rownd aboute y<sup>e</sup> cloke and lace on the cape.

Hall Papers II, No. 558. [Nov. 25, 1599.] Joanne Smythe the wief of Thomas Smythe of Brewde in Com. Staff. glasman examine saythe, that vpon Mondaye the 13 of November last, shee bought certen blue leyther purces, 7 grosse of leyther and thrid poyntes, and certen gerdles viz. 8 or 9. i dozen of teylors thymbles, and x Coventrye gyrdles, and 20 double silcke laces blue, and dim. a dosen of smalle thymbles, and other thinges, of one John Cockes and his wief, at one Rowleys howsse in Leicester: and payde for them 9s., and iis. more should paye for the same.

<sup>1</sup> Hall Papers II, No. 701.

<sup>2</sup> Milan.

<sup>3</sup> neck piece.

Agnes Cockes, examinate, saythe she ys the wief of the aforesaid John Cockes, and saythe that her husband and shee weare att Rugbye Fayor last, and beinge charged for breakinge of the stockes there, saythe shee did not breake the stockes, but confessythe she dyd plucke oute her foote, and therevpon went to her hostices howsse there, and called Margaret Holden, and there dyd eate a legge of mutton and laye there that night, and the next daye went her waye to a beare beatinge a myle of of Rugbye, and the next daye beinge Mondaye came to Leycester, and there her husband and shee laye at one Rowleys howsse.

William Billinges, teyllor, and William Jones of Rugbye in Com. Warrwick, do charge the said Agnes Cockes with suspicion of felonye, wherevpon the said Agnes Cockes ys commytted to the gaole vntill the next gaole delyverye.

The said William Billinges and William Jones bond in *xli.*, to prosecute ageynst the said Agnes at the next assises.

Hall Papers II, No. 699. [Dec. 10, 1599.] (Examination of "one who useth the art of a tumbler.")

CCCXCIV. *Letters to and from the Mayor.*

Hall Papers II, No. 696. [Dec. 1599.] Mr Maior, where one James Charlton of Stopworth had a mare stollen about Whitsontyde last, and hath found out a prisoner within Leicester gaole, called George Sillits, alias Rodon, who confesseth the stealinge of her, I shall very hartelie pray you, because the gaoler dare not bringe the said prisoner before me, beinge afraied this last night that they would have burst out of the gaole, that you will take the paynes, in regard of equitie and charitie towards the poore man, to examine him your self, who as he saieth will confesse where the mare is and who ioyned with him in taking of her, which is requisite to be knowen. Yt should seeme that she is [in] the handes of one Drewrie of Flintam in Nottinghamsheire, with whome he sayeth he did exchange her, therefore it is most meet to vnderstand more of that Drewrie, for you well knowe that receiuers are worse then theeues. So with very hartie commendacions I bid you farewell. From Aylston, this present Sondaie.

Your verrie lovinge frend

George Newcome.

Hall Papers II, No. 764. [Dec. 5, 1599.] It apeareth y<sup>at</sup> y<sup>e</sup> warent directed by me vnto you is so well alowed of as y<sup>at</sup> you have

made Alice Turner party therto a rogue<sup>1</sup> and woulde have punished y<sup>e</sup> bringers of her by inprisonment, in doing wherof yee have not y<sup>e</sup> like regarde of our authorite as we woulde have of you, neither is y<sup>e</sup> statute<sup>2</sup> by you performed, for by this meanes you may in your concaites make rogues at your pleasures, a thing not agreing to the place and office of Justices of the Peace. Therfore I woulde intreate y<sup>at</sup> you woulde better informe your selves of y<sup>e</sup> right vse of y<sup>at</sup> statute which is to releve but not to make rogues, or our betters shall judge of our proceedings. Your warent I kepe who (*sic*) with the whole maneging of y<sup>e</sup> action I will come to you if this take not place and after doe as ocation is offered, which I refer to your justices but not worldely eyes. Arbury, this v<sup>th</sup> of December 1599.

Jo. Newdegate.

[Endorsed] To the Mayor etc.

Hall Papers II, No. 843. [Dec. 6, 1599.] Sir J. Gray writes (as a Justice) asking that a prisoner T. Adcock be sent to him.

Ibid. No. 842. [Dec. 7, 1599.] (The Mayor to Sir J. Gray.) Sir, whereas you request me by your lettre, that I wold send Adcocke to your howsse to Brodgate, forthe of our libertie, nowe for answere whereof so yt ys that he was attached by your mans commaundement vpon felonye, and therewith before vs directly charged, and further that he should be forthcomynge to answere what should bee obiected ageynst hym, and so do wee holde hym accordinglye, and the rather for that he hathe beene a man notoryously defamed and inioyethe his liefe but vpon his good behaviour, and further yf you will obiecte any matter in particuler agaynst hym, wee rest readye to examyne hym therevpon in your presence, yf so it please you. And thus hopeinge your worshippe will require nothinge of vs, that maye eyther preiudice vs in our oathes, or infrindge our libertyes. With our hartye commendacions wee take our leaves. From Leicester, this vii<sup>th</sup> of December 1599.

Yourre very lovinge frendes,

Edwarde Newcome, Maior.

William Morton.

To the right worshipfull Sir John Graye, Knight.

Hall Papers II, No. 844. [Dec. 7, 1599.] (Sir John Gray to the Mayor.) Mr Maior, the cavse of my request was your promisse, which Morton and you made to mee the other daye, otherwise I would have don as my office should have borne mee oute in, and have him I will, eyther by my owne authoretie or by greater then myne;

<sup>1</sup> See p. 398.

<sup>2</sup> 39 Eliz. c. 4.

therefore send him mee, for as I lyve I will trye all the friendes I have in England but I wilbee righted of this your fond and unjust dealinge with mee; lett him bee suer that yf this your crosse course bee to pleasure him, hee is much deceaved and shall fare the worse for yt. Further know, Mr Maior, you and your breethren have alreadie wronged me and all the rest of her Majesties justices in the shyre in takinge out of my handes that which nether belonged to you, nor your shalloe capasities could vnderstand. And of all men in the shyre, Mr Maior, you and your towne have no reason to offer mee this wronge, yf you looke well into the matter, for yf you bee able to crosse me in one thinge, I can requite your towne with twentie; and therefore I wishe you not to beginn with mee, for as I am a gentleman I wilbee revenged one waye or another to my contentment and to your dislikes. Therefore lett mee have your perfect answeere for I vow, hee shall not be tryed by you nor none of you for this vngrateful fact don to mee. And let his copartner frow[ar]de<sup>1</sup> him self in your towne as well as hee may, but at lenght I shall have him and this your dealinge shall make both him and manie other of your towne fayre the worse, vnlesse you alter this course you begin to take with mee. From Brodgate this vii<sup>th</sup> December 1599.

Yours as you vse me,

J. Graye.

Hall Papers II, No. 711. [Dec. 21, 1599.] (The Recorder to the Mayor.) Right worshipfull Mr Maior, I receved vnderstandinge, youe desire my companye for keepinge the Quarter Sessions vpon Mondaie the 14<sup>th</sup> of Januarie, which daie (accordinge to your desire) I meane to be withe youe, and so I maie serve all partes; for I have not, nor will not, faile any parte; and allthoughe this is a differringe of one weeke, further than youe firste desired, yet (I truste) it will not be oute of tyme, nor hinderance to the greate lawiers, in goinge to the terme. And where youe sent your seriant, for my direccion, touching those that obstynate themselves againste your graunte<sup>2</sup>, made by her Maiestie, I accordinglie advised him sundrie waies of procedinge therin; howe his care and dilligence to apprehend that I advised, I knowe not, neither howe, nor what, youe have further doon therein. But if youe have doon nothings, or knowe not which waie to deale therin, I shall (I doubt not) reddie youe, the nerest and assuredste waie of procedinge, touchinge the same. And this shalbe

<sup>1</sup> MS. *frowede*.

<sup>2</sup> *i.e.* the glovers opposing the charter.

at my said next commynge. And so leavinge further to trouble youe, till then, withe my hartiest commendacions I commend youe to the Allmightie. This St Thomas daie next before Xmas.

Your lovinge cosen and assured frind,

Ric. Parkyns.

Hall Papers II, Nos. 707—708. [Dec. 30, 1599.] (The Mayor to the Earl.) Right honorable, our humble dewties premised; and may yt please your good lordshippe eftsoones to be remembered for the allowance of the countries yerely contribution of xii*/*i. for the releiffe of the poore lazars in the spittle by Leicester, who by reason of the deniall thereof and restraynt from begging abroad (not havinge any other mayneteynance) are almost famished; and the rather, may yt please your good lordshippe, for that the contynuanee thereof, heretofore, hath bene and no doubt vnder your lordshippe's correction, the maynetenance thereof nowe more and more wilbe moste serviceable and needfull to the wholle countie for the resceite of such lazars and other infectious poore impotent people, as by the countries meanes cheiffly and almost wholly the same is nowe charged with, beinge not fitt for any other place: And further, may yt please your good lordshippe, to be advertized, that yf the countrie should forget what ease the have and what an vnreasonable burden we dayly endure by the mayntenance of our poore at home (whereof the greatest part are caused and come by their meanes), and in an vnneighbourly measure the relief of the spittle also vpon vs by pretence of the late Statute for releiffe of the poore<sup>1</sup> and enlargement of our liberties<sup>2</sup>: Then may yt please your good lordship, as we judge it wold be bothe in conscience and proportion moste vnequall, and as we are advised (savage favor) by that Statute that it is without warrant; for that thereby the poore prisoners in the Kinges Benche and Marshallsey and suche hospitalls and almes houses as shold be in any countie, whereof then this was and yet is the onely one in this countie for bothe Burrowe of Leicester and all the liberties thereof, though the be not of the countie but exempted, yet are the in the countie, shold be relieved by the generall weekly assessment of iiii*/*d. in euery parishe in the wholle countie and not above, and the overplus thereof to be employed to suche as sustayne losses by fire, water and other wise, after whiche proportion we will weekelye answer; but that, God wott, is nothinge towards the maynetenaunce of the said spittle, beinge not above sixe porre parrishes with oure newe liberties also.

<sup>1</sup> 39 Eliz. c. 3.

<sup>2</sup> By the charter of June 1, 1599.

And thus referringe the consideracion hereof wholly to your good lordshippe, humblie cravinge pardon for beinge so troublesome, with remembrance of our dewties we humbly take our leaves. Leicester, this xxx<sup>th</sup> of December 1599.

(To the Earl of Huntingdon from the Mayor and three brethren (named).)

Hall Papers II, No. 709. [Dec. 30, 1599.] Good Mr Maior, I am sorry I have not any other present than my vnfeyned love to retorne you in recompence of your kyndnes, which I protest in singlenes of my hart I owe you and the rest of our Corporation. But, syr, it is thought that your former guiftes and the favours I have formerlie receaved from your boroughe, have corrupted me and my affection towardes your selfe and your bretheren, in regard whereof I did once thinke to have sent backe your cost at this tyme bestowed on me, not that I would [not] have received your love therein but that I might the moer freely have obiected that reproach which hath bin obiected both against your selves, and me. But I could not tell howe you would take it, and therefoer I have thankfullie accepted the same, and doe desier that in requytall therof you would be pleased with the advise of some of your bretheren, to acquaint me with the power and efficacie of your charter, for the better warrantie of divers your actions which are nowe put in execution, as especyallie for barring straungers your markett, which doth breed much clamour and great offence in the countrie, and which course the gentlemen doe purpose to oppose you in: and as for this particuler, so for some other respectes, I desier to be instructed, that I may the better aunswer and speak when opportunitie is offered, which I would gladlie doe, as well for your good as my owne creadytt; and I thinke the Quarter Sessions wilbe the tyme therfoer if your leasuer will permitt, ether this afternoone or tomorrowe, by one or two a clocke, I will wayte of you at your Hall; I desier to knowe your pleasuer, for because I cannot also attend you. And so with my faythfull promise of all fidelitie, wherto my oath bindeth me, to the good estate of Leicester, I take leave: Belgrave, this 30<sup>th</sup> December 1599.

George Belgrave.

#### CCCXCV. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 174. [Jan. 2, 1600.] *Commissioners to meete etc.* Also it is nowe agreed that the Commissioners appoynted the last yeare (for the sale of land) or the moest parte of them, shall within viii dayes next ensuinge, meete together at the Towne Hall and



confer howe they maye rayse the somme of ccli., as well for the settinge the poore on worke, as also for the payment of the townes debtes, vppon payne of euerye one makinge default xxs. withoute a lawfull excuse.

<sup>1</sup>*To send to London abowte our newe Charter, and restraynt of forren Glovers.* [Jan. 6 (Sunday), 1600.] Att this meetinge it is agreed by theire consentes, that Mr Maior shall presentlie proseade in suyte (for the maynテナunce of oure Charter) in the restraynte of forrayne Glovers from trafique within this Burrowe of Leycester.

<sup>2</sup>*For the same ut supra.* [Jan. 14, 1600.] Itt is nowe agreed to send presently vppe to London to retayne Mr Attorney Generall<sup>3</sup>, towching Mountsorell men, and John Clarke is appoynted to goe to London to Mr George Parkyns to doe his indeaver to the said Mr Attorney abowte the townes cawses towching the said Mountsorell men, with lettres from them aboue named and also to have our newe Chartre vppe with him.

[Jan. 15, 1600.] (p. 175.) *Concerninge Mr Holte.* Hitt is nowe agreed to stay the servinge of the Previe Seale ageynst Mr Holte, and it is further agreed to send a lettre to Thomas Eynesworthe seruaunte and Bayllye to the said Master Holte of the landes and tenementes belonginge to the late Colledge of the Blessed Virgyn Marie neire the Castle of Leicester, to come over to Leicester to Mr Maior abowte the same Privye Seale etc.

<sup>4</sup>*John Clarke to bee presently sent to London.* Item it is nowe also agreed, that John Clarke one of ther sergiantes shalbee presentlie sent to London to Mr George Parkyns with lettres and instructions to moave and soliciat they cawses of this buroughe of Leicester to the Attorney Generall towching certain poyntes and defectes of our newe charter, and keepinge oute of the glovers ond other artisantes, straungers dwellinge in the cuntry, and to have the said chartre vppe with him to the said Attorney.

<sup>5</sup>*Mr Bayly and Mr Warde the Stward.* Also it is further agreed that John Wilne gentleman the nowe Baylliffe of the Buroughe of Leicester, and Thomas Warde the nowe Stwarde of the Towne Courte of the said buroughe of Leicester, shall either of them haue their severall offices assured vnto them for and duringe their naturall lyves, by severall grauntes from the Maior, Baylliffes and Burgesses of the Buroughe of Leicester, vnder their common seale, etc.

<sup>1</sup> Also in Hall Papers II, No. 714.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. No. 717.

<sup>3</sup> Brograve, Attorney of the Duchy.

<sup>4</sup> Also in Hall Papers II, No. 717.

<sup>5</sup> Also in Hall Papers II, Nos. 717, 749.

CCCXCVI. *Scheme to support the Charter.*

Hall Papers II, No. 720. Remembrances for John Clarke, Hilary Term 1600.

First to delyver his lettres and charters to Mr George Parkyns and further to attend his directions therein and to delyver him for his paynes 40s. And further to disbursse suche money for Councell fees and otherwise, as shalbe needfull.

Item with what speede possible he can, to procure proces at the Queenes suite (if Mr Attorney will thereunto agree) vpon the contempt agaynst John Hoode (and seven others named) for buyinge fells in our markytt, synce the 8 of Novembre.

Item to be advized vpon suche notes concerninge our chartre as you have directions for, sent to Mr George Parkins inclosed in youre lettres, and gett Mr Attorneys hande therevnto, and to bringe the said notes and chartre sent vppe backe ageyne.

Item to take order in the Cheker, for discharge of the collectors of this cuntrye for the xv<sup>ens</sup> with our newe liberties that from henceforthe the collectors of the Burrowe of Leycester maye be charged therewith, yf by Mr Attorney you shall be certified the same shalbe within oure newe chartre.

Item to aquaynt Mr Combes the Clarke of the Assises and by him the Clarke of the Crowne Office with the tenor of oure newe chartre for their directions in their commission and writtes at this nexte assise.

Item to deale with the Clarke of the Pettie Bagge for our Commissioners for the subsidies within our Burrowe as well within liberties as withoute, givinge our newe liberties the names of the Newarke, the Bishoppes Fee, St Margarettes parishe, St Maries parishe, and St Leonardes parishe, without namyngge them to bee "in Burgo Leicestrie," and to put in Sir Edward Hastings knight, nexte the Maior, and leave oute Mr Henrye Cave, and make Mr Mayor onely of the quorum, etc.

Hall Papers II, No. 716. [Jan. 15, 1600.] (The Mayor to the Recorder.) Good Mr Parkyns, after our hartye commendacions to you, with the like thanckes for your greate paynes taken in our booke<sup>1</sup>, wherein hithertoo you have not been so well considered as you deserved, but wee do meane fully to recompence you to your owne content: oure said booke ys nowe greatlye impugned and the

<sup>1</sup> The draft of the charter as drawn up on behalf of the petitioners.

liberties therein containyd marvelouslye shott att by some malecontentes, and for as muche as the said booke was penned by Mr Attorney<sup>1</sup> and greatlye furthered by meanes to hym, wee thinck hym the fittest, for defence thereof, as well in regard of his place and knowledge, as for the reason above remembred, and for that we knowe your sufficiencie and faviour with the said Mr Attorney, wee are desirus to intreate youre care to manage the said cawse; some particuler perills appearinge in the said booke, we have incerted in some nootes herein closed, wherein and in other defectes thereof, it maye please you to take advise of the said Mr Attorney, and by your best meanes to obtayne his favior, and this bearer shall satisfie all fees. Thus reposinge our trust in your good consideracion of vs and love to y<sup>e</sup> poore towne of Leicester, wee assure vs of your furtherance to the best of your habyllytye, and you shall perceyve that wee will not bee vnthanckfull. And so wee leave you to thallmightye, who allwayes directe you to his will. Leicester, this xv<sup>th</sup> of Januarye 99.

Your verye lovinge frendes,  
(Edw. Newcome, Maior, and 7 others.)

To Geo. Parkyns Esq. att his Chamber in the Inner Temple.

Hall Papers II, No. 725. [Jan. 23, 1600.] (The Recorder's son to the Mayor.) Good Mr Maior, noe lesse commendacions then hartie thanks for your letter (and curtesie) by this bearer receaved; wherein accordinge as youe writt and desired, I have performed (withe our greate good frende) Mr Attorney, and heare inclosed vnder his owne hande send youe his opinion to everie particuler doubte. And yf further doubte or question shall offer it selfe vnto your wisdomes, he will bee ever redie to give youe further satisfaction, with all possible contents he maye, for that he protested he loved Leicester, and sayd that they weare but some turbulent spirites that sought to impugne this graunt. And further for defence thereof youe shoulde ever bee assured of his beste favor agaynste your opposers therein, advisinge likewise that it was noe good comerse to deale with your straungers which sell by retall by any Eschequer shutes<sup>2</sup>, in that he hathe bine privie that the chiefe Baron will favor youe nothinge therin, but rather sett privie espialls to take them raylinge of your charter or by disgrasinge your graunt, and soe to bringe them in to the Starre Chamber vppon some woordes, and there he will put in with youe, and stande by youe, and for youe in all he lawfullie maye or canne. Thus beinge cutte of by other occasions, and heare inforced to bid

<sup>1</sup> Brograve.

<sup>2</sup> shutes = suits.

youe farewell, noe lesse promissinge my love then redie by my paynes to doe youe any kindnesse, I ende, committinge youe all vnto the direction of the Allmightie. From y<sup>e</sup> Temple, this xxiii<sup>th</sup> of Januarie 1599.

Your assured lovinge frinde,

George Parkyns.

CCCXCVII. *Letters on town business.*

Hall Papers II, No. 734. [Jan. 7, 1600.] (The Earl to the Mayor.) After my hartie commendacions wheras I have bene moved not onelie by your self but also by some of your predecessors to give order that some allowance might be made out of the cuntrie towards the releiffe of the pore within the hospitall called the Spittle neare your towne: which request I am willinge to satisfye so as you can shewe me anye president that the cuntrie heretofore hathe bene taxed to anye suche charge, which to my knowledge hathe not bene, neither doe I knowe whether the same be within your corporacion or not: Therefore I doe desire youe to sende me not onlie the Charter of the foundation thereof but also your newe Charter of your corporacion whereby I being rightlie informed of the cause I may take suche order therin as the same shall require. And so I bid you farewell. From Ashebye Dalazouche, this vii<sup>th</sup> of Januarye 1599.

Your lovinge frende,

George Huntingdon.

Hall Papers II, No. 718. [Jan. 12, 1600.] (George Belgrave to W. Dethick.) Mr Derrick, In these matters of importaunce I may not with my creadyt delude men of sutch quallitie as I am to deal with, and therfoer I mervayle you send me a coppie but of part of the new ordynaunces, and leave out your determinations against glovers and fellmongers, I pray you insert in the note which I retorne you the resolutions concerning them, which be the cheif causers of this division. I love and affect plaine dealing, and therfoer desier other to be enterteyned in trust, wherto by my oath I am tyed, and whervnto my endeavours shall extend to deserve, or otherwise I intreat to be altogether secluded, which will breed my owne quiett and my lesst dislike amongst our gentlemen. It was agreed y<sup>at</sup> you should coppie forth the whole and my selfe promised to reteyne it pryvate, and not to communicate or divuldge it further than to shewe the gentlemen ther error and misconceytes, wrongfullie grownded vppon ignorant

and clamorous people, and therfoer blame me not if I be icolous least you surmise that I will deale ether vnfaythfullie, or not providently in this matter. Assuer yourselves y<sup>at</sup> yf I doe you no good I will nether in this or any thing else doe you any harme: yf you purpose I shall labour further in this matter, send me the whole betymes in the morning. And ever so in haste I bid you farewell. Belgrave, this 12<sup>th</sup> Jan. 1599.

Your very loving frend,  
George Belgrave.

Hall Papers II, No. 721. [Jan. 18, 1600.] Mr Belgrave saythe that very lately at Sir John Grayes amongst dyvers other gentlemen, he hard Mr Thomas Cave saye that a man of his of a markytt daye before Xmas last was to have sold a beast hide in Leicester markytt, and there cowlde not sell the same hide, except to a townesman, and that all the tanners of the contrye was exhibyted<sup>1</sup> so as his man cold not sell his hyde except to a townes man, and therevpon was dryven to carrye it backe ageyne and so to Melton markett on the Tuesdaye next after.

CCCXCVIII. *Negotiations on the question of Toll.*

Hall Papers II, No. 727. [Jan. 29?, 1600.] (Stanford to the Mayor.) Sir, my duty remembred, I have accordinge to my best indevors laboured in your cause, and by this bearer have certified the hithertoo success thereof. The cause depending in y<sup>e</sup> duchy betweene y<sup>e</sup> towne and Worshipp is dismissed by order and rule of y<sup>e</sup> courte. And this day y<sup>e</sup> other cause for to be receaved hearinge, but y<sup>e</sup> determination thereof is deferred vntill y<sup>e</sup> Monday immediately before the end of this term for y<sup>e</sup> plaintiffs to shew further matter then yet is conceaved by y<sup>e</sup> courte. Our deedes receaved good allowance, with a generall consent, y<sup>at</sup> as well strangers as inhabitantes within the towne of Leicester should be dischargd from payment of toll, stallage, picage, tronage and thoroutoll according to the prescript of our Charter from the Duke of Lancaster. All the doubte then moved was in stallage alledged by them to be receaved by Mr Bayliffe, which they would gladlye obtayne if by any meanes a bad cause might prevayle. But for answeare to y<sup>at</sup> obiection, we say y<sup>at</sup> her Maiesties Bayliffe receaveth rent for certain shopps and little tenementes in the markett place erected vpon y<sup>e</sup> Queenes wast, for which Mr Bayliffe doth yerely accompt, which rent so receaved for the shopps was not

<sup>1</sup> inhibited.

intended, as we take it, to be deuised and granted vnto y<sup>e</sup> complainant by y<sup>e</sup> name of stallage<sup>1</sup>. In which answeare Mr Attorney seemed to be satisfyed for that obiection. As for all other stalls of y<sup>e</sup> shambles and drapery and sheep penns before deuised vnto Mr Catlyn<sup>2</sup> and purchased by the towne in fee farme, vpon shewing the grant thereof, the complainant shalbe excluded and forbarred. So that very little is like to befall them vpon this sute, and if any thinge happen to profite them, yet I hope it wilbe without prejudice to vs. For the perfecting hereof, I humbly pray you, to sent by John Clarke y<sup>e</sup> bearer hereof y<sup>e</sup> grant of your fee farme, with a certificat from your Mr Bayliffe and y<sup>e</sup> rest of the manor of this supposed stallage obiectioned by y<sup>e</sup> complainant to be receaved. If you could procure y<sup>e</sup> sending vp of Mrs Catlyn<sup>3</sup>s lease, it would perhaps much pleasure vs. In this buisines our diligence hathe not beene wantinge nor searches forslowd, nor meanes omitted, which althoughe they be meanes of greate charge and expence, yet I hope to compasse an end of those sutes, with gayne of credit to the towne, and purchasing y<sup>e</sup> love of y<sup>e</sup> countrey, for a parte thereof, which was assented to have beene geuen for a disgracefull and odious composicion. Thus expecting an answeare and returne of those thinges with as much expedition as you may, with my hartye commendacions to your worshippe, I humblye take my leave. From my chamber, in Graiss Inn. This 39<sup>th</sup> (*sic*) day of January.

Your loving cosen at commandment,

John Stanford.

#### CCCXCIX. *Bakers' suit*<sup>4</sup>.

Hall Papers II, No. 723. [Jan. 10?, 1600.] Righte worshippingfull, whereas itt hath pleased the right worshippingfull Roberte Clarke and John Saville esquiers, twoo of her Maiesties Barons of her heighnes honorable courte of Exchequer, togeyther with your selfe to directe your lettres of the last of Octobre to vs, to thend wee sholde cawle before vs Thomas Hunt, Roger Hall and others, bakers of our burrowe of Leicester, plaintiffs, and William Beckett weyver of the same burrowe, defendant, and to take order betwixt them, so as the said bakers wolde permit the said Beckett to bake suche smale thinges as hee hathe vsed, wherevpon, righte worshippingfull, wee accordinglie have called the said plaintiffs and defendant before vs, but can take

<sup>1</sup> See pp. 237, 399, 400.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 52.

<sup>3</sup> On Mrs Catlyn see below.

<sup>4</sup> See p. 376.

no order betwixt them; for that the said Beckett saithe, vnles hee maye be suffered to bake suche sortes of bread and as muche weekelie as hee heretofore hath vsed, hee will answere them to the lawe, and therefore we have taken no order betwixte them, but have lefte them to the order of the honorable courte of the duchie. And further maie itt please yowe, suche sortes of breade as hee and others in our towne doe nowe use to bake in their howses, as spiced cakes, bunes, biskettes and other spiced breades (beinge breade oute of sise<sup>1</sup>, and not by lawe allowed) are prohibited (torn)

Christmas yppon payne of forfeiture of suche spiced breades to the poore. And further in Easter terme last, there was an injunction graunted oute of the said honorable courte of the duchie, prohibitinge the said Beckitt and all others in our said towne and subbarbes from bakinge anye suche sortes of vnlawfull breades; which wee take (vnder your worshippes reformation) to bee a sufficient warrant and discharge, as well for the said Beckitt, as others, from bakinge suche sortes of vnlawfull breade. And thus beinge boulde and trowblesome to your worshippe, wee humblie take our leaves. From Leicester this 10(?) of Januarye 1599.

Edw. Newcome (and 7 others).

To John Brogrove Esq. Attorney of H.M.'s Council of the Duchy.

Hall Papers II, No. 79. [Jan. 25, 1600.] (Order of the Duchy Court.) Whereas the defendantes have seuerally disobeyed an iniunction awarded oute of this courte whereby they were prohibited to bake any spiced cakes, bunnes, biskittes, and such other spiced breade, and to sell the same (beinge breade out of syse<sup>1</sup> and not by lawe allowed) as by affidauit made by Roger Hall provinge the same appeyareth: Therefore an attachment is awarded agaynst the saide defendants to answere there contempte therein: And whereas itt pleased Mr Baron Clarke, Mr Baron Savile, and Mr Attorney in favior of the defendant William Beckitt to write there lettres to the Maior and Aldermen of the towne of Leicester, that by there meanes and travell some ende mighte bee made betwixt the plaintiffs and him the said Beckitt: The Maior and Aldermen haue thereunto returnedd aunswere by there lettres that they haveinge called the plaintiffs and him before them, noe ende or agreement coulde be made, vnles hee the saide Beckitt mighte bee suffered to bake suche sortes of breade, and soe muche weekly in his howse, as heretofore hee vsed, hee woulde aunswere the plaintiff to the lawe. Therefore

<sup>1</sup> assise.

daie is given for heyringe of the matter the nexte terme, viz. on Mondaie the xxi<sup>th</sup> daie of Aprill next, and the plaintiffs to give conveynient notice to the deffendantes of the saide daie of hearinge. And the steward of the Castell of Leicester his deputie or deputies are by vertewe hereof to suffer the plaintiffs or anye for them to make searche amongst the courte rolls remayninge att the said Castle, and likewise the said steward his deputie or deputyes to certefye this courte howe and in what manner paynes have beene ymposed in the courtes holden att the said Castle vppon the inhabitantes of the towne of Leicester, as well of late as of aunncyent tyme, for bakeinge of spiced bread and other vnlawfull bread within the said towne, and allso howe the same amerciantes have beene answered to her Maiesties vse (if any suche paynes have beene sett, and amercyantes payde as this Courte is informed have beene) for the better satisfyinge this Courte at the same hearinge.

Ex. per William Gerrarde.

#### CCCC. *Relations of Town and County.*

Hall Papers II, Nos. 724 and 772. [Feb. 3, 1600.] (The Mayor to the Judges.) <sup>1</sup>Right honorable: oure humble dewties remembred etc. may yt please your good lorshippes to bee advertised that [we now]<sup>1</sup> deteyne in person within the libertie of our Corporation, one Walter Barloc<sup>2</sup>, a vagarant, recusant, popish [priest of no]<sup>1</sup> valewe nor abilitie in landes nor goodes, but vnder your lordshippes correction as wee are informed within the [limits of the] statute in this behalfe made in the xxxv<sup>th</sup> yeere of her Maiesties raigne<sup>3</sup>, ceasinge further to pro[secute vntill] wee heare your honours direction therein, and the rather becawse the lettre of that statute nameth the [Justices of the] Peace and coroners of the countie onlie. And allso maye itt please your good lordshippes to bee remembred [that by] the late proclamacion for observacion of fishe daies itt is straitelie commaunded that no butcher be lycensed to kill anie fleshe to bee spent in Lent but onlie in greate cities that bee counties. Nowe so itt is (maye itt please your good lordshippes) our Burrowe of Leicester is noe suche place, but a verye [ancient] burrowe and verie populous and there the Assises and Sessions and other meetinges [of the] countie ordinarilie helde; nowe therefore wee humblie desire your

<sup>1</sup> Edge torn off.

<sup>2</sup> See above, p. 378.

<sup>3</sup> 35 Eliz. cap. 2 on popish recusants.



honors direction and resolution. Further maie itt please your good lordshipp to bee advertized that whereas itt hath pleased our most gracious Queenes most excellent Maiestie that nowe is, of late to renewe our chartre, and therein amongst [other] to enlardge allso our jurisdiction with thaddition of the adioyninge and intermingled [parts of the] auntient liberties; wherevppon some gentlemen of the countie [have]<sup>1</sup> taken offence here att...(torn), doe of late instantlie vrge vppon vs suche chargable incumbrances (vnder your lordshippes co[m]mand we] are informed), no waye intended by the lawe; for whereas maie itt please your lordshippe, that whereas we are informed that the late provision for the relieffe of maymed soldiars and mariners, and the poore prisoners in the Kinges Bentch and Marshallsey and alsoe suche hospitalls and almes howsses as shalbee in anie countie sholde bee releived by the wholl countie in common, includinge all liberties and corporations (beinge not counties of themselves) within the countie: And that coporacions haveinge Justices of Peace within them, have libertie onlie to assesse, taxe, collecte and appoynte an officer like vnto a head constable to receive and paie over there taxacion vnto the Treasurer of the countie, to whom and to the Justices of the countie the disposition thereof and of the countries taxe also doth onlie belonge: And that allbee itt the Justices of the countie are not to intermeadle within the corporacion, yett the Treasurer of the countie maie levie by distresse the corporations taxe, either vppon there churchwardins, or there said officer to bee appoynted like vnto a head constable: And whereas there is but one onlie chargeable poore spittlehowsse in the countie of Leicester, releived nowe formerlie by the countie with the yeerelie pension of xii*l*.: And whereas allso the lordes of her Maiesties moste honorable Privye Councell did of late commende one Thomas Yates, a maymed soldyer and mariner to the Justices of Peace and Treasurer of the council of Leicester for his pension to bee allowed of the said countie, accordinge to his place and service: Yett so itt is, maie itt please your good lordshippes, that for as muche as by her Maiesties late enlargement of our jurisdiction by her heighnes chartre, the said spittle is nowe within our liberties, and for that the said Thomas Yates was borne within our corporacion, divers of the countye doe denye there saide pention to the said spittle, and refuse to make anie allowance to Yates, and charge them both whollie and onlie vppon our poore corporacion<sup>2</sup>, beinge with our newe liberties allso not above vi smale poore parishes, whose taxe can no waye (vnder your lordshippes

<sup>1</sup> omitted.<sup>2</sup> See further below, No. CCCCXXIII.

correction) bee answerable to the proporcion of the lawe for the releife aforesaide and suche pensions for suche soldyars as shalbee borne or pressed with vs, as the saide Justices intende<sup>1</sup> the lawe, wherein allso we humblie crave your lordshipps resolution with your honors favourable regarde of the surcharged estate of our poore decayed corporacion, howsoever the lawe in this respecte shall or maie bee taken. And yett (a little further presuminge vppon your lordshipps patience) maie itt please youe to bee advertized that whereas wee proceede in the execution of suche good ordinaunces for tradinge and chapmandrie within our markitt, as by your lordshipps predecessors have beene formerlye confirmed, and nowe by our newe chartre are graunted vnto vs, the saide Justices in favior of the adverse parte labor (as wee are informed) to drawe your lordshipps againste vs, wherein wee most humblie beseeche the continuance of your good favors as the truth and equitie of our saide proceedings in your honors consideracion shall deserve. And thus cravinge pardon for our tedious boldnes, with remembrance of our duties we humblie take our leaves. From the Burrowe of Leicester, this fourthe daie of Februarye 1599.

Your honors humblie to commaunde.

(Edwarde Newcome, Maior (and 6 other autographs), members of the Four-and-twenty.)

(Endorsed:) to the Right Hon. Sir Edm. Anderson kt., Lord Chief Justice and John Glanville Esq., one other Justice of H.M.'s Court of Common Plees etc.

Hall Papers II, No. 766. [Feb. 6, 1600.] (Sir J. Newdigate to the Mayor.) Mr Maior, I doubte not but you rest fully satisfied y<sup>at</sup> Al(i)ce Turner was no rogue at y<sup>e</sup> time of your punishment, who smarted by your mistakinges, and we here burdened, soe was the ground aledged, when she was hether sent; which beinge proved vntrue, as hath bene done, hath bene the cause y<sup>at</sup> we reforme our selves, in sendinge her where she last abode; supposales and mistakinges with soe many resoninges performeth not the statute but perverteth it by the abusers. Therefore I desyre your care herein that eyther you will deliver soe good reson as may deserve to take place, or els to receive her, for I assure you we have, since the begininge of the cause, had the like party inhabitaunt with vs and gotten with child onely dwellinge a yeaere here, whom we cannot be yet satisfied how we may discharge ourselves thereof, vnlesse we will be lawles and followe your example, which we thinke fitteth not the

<sup>1</sup> understand.

gravety of our<sup>1</sup> office, therefore had rather be lookers on to see others doe yt then be actors therein our selves, for carelesnes or neglecte will not thus be excused. I keepe copies of this and other y<sup>e</sup> proceedings herein to yeald attendaunce with myselfe for those to see y<sup>at</sup> have power to iudge of our duties. Thus I commit you to God. Arbury, y<sup>e</sup> vi<sup>th</sup> of Februry 1599.

Your loving frend,

Jo. Newdegate.

Hall Papers II, No. 756. [Feb. 25, 1600.] (The Mayor to the Earl.) Right honorable, my humble deutie remembred etc., may yt please your good lordshippe to be certified that by theis bearers I have sent to your lordshippe our newe Charter, with speciall notice to informe your honor as well bothe of our purpose in procuringe and directions in proceedinge therein, so also of our chargeable defence and discharge of the tolle to the countries speciall good, humbly cravage the further experience of your lordshippes most honorable favour in them bothe, aswell for some releif from the countrie, towards the defrayeing of the said charge of the tolle, as also that yt wold please your lordshippe to signifie by your lordshippes lettre, your honors good likinge to the Judges of the Assise concerninge our Chartre and proceedings therevpon. And the rather I make bold to intreate this honorable favour of your lordshippe for that, some gentlemen of the countrie not favouringe our good, concealinge our said good purpose in procuringe, and not well wayeinge our warrant of proceedinge, have ioyned in complaint by ther lettre to the Judges againste vs, and so by that meanes the Judges may happely be persuaded that your honors countenance is therein also against vs, wherein we most confidently hope and assuredly truste the contrarie for all your honors house. And thus referringe the consideracion hereof wholly to your lordshippes most honoured wisdom, humbly cravage the contynuance of your lordshippes honoured favour, with remembrance of my speciall bounden dewtie, I humbly take my leave. Leicester, this xxv<sup>th</sup> of February 1599.

Your honors humblye to commaunde,

Th. Newcome, Maior.

CCCCI. *Certificate of freedom from toll.*

Box 2 A, No. 901. [Feb. 12, 1600.] Letters patent<sup>2</sup> of Elizabeth inspecting a certain decree in the treasury (camera) of the Duchy of Lancaster at Westminster, dated 11 Feb. 1599 in Hillary Term in a suit between Okes and Rogers, concern-

<sup>1</sup> Ms. *your*.

<sup>2</sup> Partly Latin, partly English.

ing toll and stallage of the markets and fairs of Leicester pretended to be concealed from H.M. and whereof a lease was granted under the Duchy seal to Randall Manyge and by him assigned to the said complainants. After evidence shewn in court before Mr Baron Clerke and other commissioners, it appears that the Mayor and burgesses of Leicester and all other persons as well freemen as strangers and foreigners ought to be discharged of all toll, stallage, picage, tronage and thorough toll in Leicester and the suburbs and tollmarks thereof for any matter yet shaped (sheiped) in H.M.'s behalf. The privilege granted under the seal of Henry Duke of Lancaster is confirmed: saving always to H.M. and her heirs and successors such right and title to the said toll as shall at any time hereafter appear to be due. Exemplified at the instance of John Clarke for the Mayor and burgesses.

Note of enrolment.

Fragment of seal.

### CCCCII. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 175. [Feb. 14, 1600.] *A lettre for Soldiars.* Mr Newcom, Maior, Mr Norice, Mr Heyricke, Mr Morton, Mr Thomas Clarke, Mr Ellyce, Mr Gillott, Mr Chettell, Mr Thomas Warde and Chamberlyn Myddleton. Att this metinge was a lettre readd, sent from the Earle of Huntingdon, towching the charge of sixe soldiars now presently to bee sent into Ireland, for the Burrowe of Leicester and the newe liberties of Leicester.

(p. 176.) <sup>1</sup>*Goinge to the Earle.* Itt is nowe agreed to send his Lordshippe for some favior and tolleration for abatement of the said nombre of sixe soldiars, and theire is nowe agreed to goe to his honour abowte the same, Mr Maior, Mr Thomas Clarke, Mr Hunter, Mr Chettell and Mr Thomas Warde.

*Soldyars.* Memorandum that Mr Maior and those above named rid presentlie to the Earle of Huntingdon, whose honor, at the request and humble suite of Mr Maior, and for his sake only did release the towne of three soldiars. So as thereby the said Buroughe of Leicester and the newe Liberties thereof weare charged but onlie with three soldyars, viz. one furnished with a pike, one other with a muskitt, and one other with a caliver.

The contentes of the lettre before mencioned viz.

<sup>2</sup>To my lovinge frende the Maior of Leicester. Whereas I have receaved lettres from Her most excellent Maiestie and the Lords of Her Maiesties moste honorable Privie Councell, for the present musteringe, and selectinge oute of this Her Maiesties countye of

<sup>1</sup> Hall Papers II, No. 738.

<sup>2</sup> Hall Papers II, No. 746 (the original).

Leicester one hundreth footemen to be fullie and forthwith furnished and sorted with armour munition and weapons, coates, and conducte money, dublettes, hose, shirtes, bandes, shoes, broagues, stockinges and hatt capps, fitt and convenient for Her Maiesties service in her warrs in Ireland, as by their Lordshippes lettres is expressed: These are to will you and in the Queenes Maiesties name straightlie to charge and require you, that immedyatlie vpon the receipte of this my lettre of warrant you levie within the towne and liberties of Leicester sixe verie sufficient and able men, of good habilitie of bodye, and likelyhoode, not loose people addicted to lewednes and idlenes, but men of good disposition and aptnes for warre service, and to sorte them with their severall armes in this manner viz. i corslett with murrian<sup>1</sup> poldrens<sup>2</sup> and pyke, i corslett with murrian poldren and halbertt, i muskitt with spanyshe murrian bardroll<sup>3</sup> and reste<sup>4</sup>, one basterd muskett so furnished, ii calivers with bandrolls and murrians, well furnished with close hilted swordes and daggers, and to allowe for conduct money for vi daies after they shall goe from Ashebye after viii<sup>d</sup>. the daye: and further to levye collect and gather vpp towards the furnyshing of the said vi men with coates and thother apparel before mentioned, xls. for euery man, which is forthwith by me to be sent to London, there to be payed over to Sir John Harte, Knight, Alderman, with whom order is taken by their Lordships, for y<sup>e</sup> furnesheing of this whole service with all the said apparell. And for that the whole number that is to bee levied out of this countye, are to be at the porte at Chester the laste of this moneth, you must not fayle to send these sixe men and the money so by you to be levyed and furnished to Asheby Delazouch at the furthest by the xxii<sup>th</sup> of this moneyth then to be ready to go alonge with the rest of the companie with the conductor. And for as much as heretofore divers complayntes haue bine made to me of the vnindifferency<sup>5</sup> of former taxacions imposed vppon divers persons within the libertie not regardinge their estate and qualitie, I wishe their maie be more equality vsed, and that I maye the better be satisfied thereof, and aunswere the obiections of anye that shall hereafter informe of the like, I woulde you to send me a perfect and true noate, what you levye for the furnishing of these sixe men and

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<sup>1</sup> head-piece.

<sup>2</sup> shoulder plates.

<sup>3</sup> bardroll=bandroll, belt to support the musket and carry the powder charges.

<sup>4</sup> to prop the musket in firing.

<sup>5</sup> unindifferency=want of fairness.

of whom it is collected and receaved. And so I bidd you farewell.  
Asheby Delazouch the xi<sup>th</sup> of February, 1599.

Your lovinge frende

George Huntingdon.

<sup>1</sup>The names of our iii soldiers viz. :

Robert Scampton, (m)	} The xxii <sup>th</sup> of February. The said
Francis Greene, (Ca)	
John Haddocke, (Pike)	

three Soldiars sent to Ashbye, to the  
Earle and xls. apeece for euery of them.  
And viii<sup>d</sup>. apeece for euery one for vi daies after their goinge from  
Ashebye.

<sup>2</sup>[Feb. 18, 1600.] (p. 177.) *Taxacion for soldiars and other thinges etc.* Also it is agreed that the taxacion for the soldiars and other present charges, shalbee assessed accordinge to the last taxacion, for the last subsidie after the rate of xiid. the pounce in goodes, and xviii<sup>d</sup>. landes. And the able commoners and others to bee assessed accordingly. And that they that bee vndervalued in the said subsidie booke to bee amended, and they that are overcharged in the said subsidie booke to bee abated. And this assesment to bee made by the Maior and his Bretherne, or the greater parte of them, and the some so to bee taxed, to be to the value of xlii., at the leaste.

*Ex parte Saunderson.* (Three persons named to hear the cause between the late gaoler and the town for the allowance he demands for the prisoners for the time he was gaoler: and that collection for the payment of him shall be made with the taxation for maimed soldiers, mariners and the "spitlehowses" etc.)

*Swannes.* Also whereas Fraunces Bellgraue of Leicester, gentleman, ys to answere vnto this Buroughe of Leicester for fynes and amerciamentes taxed vpon him in the Queenes Maiesties Courte of Recorde of the said Buroughe for that hee did bringe into the same Courte the bodye of one Thomas Petifer, for whom he vndertooke and becam pledge, the somme of xlii.: In lewe whereof he dothe offer to giue vnto the Mayor of Leicester a payre of breedinge swanns with the marke, to remayne to the vse of the Maiors of Leicester: It is therefore nowe agreed to accepte of the said swannes and marke, and to discharge him of the said fynes and amerciamentes etc. For and concernynge theise swannes, looke further, for this yeare, where is sett downe the daie of their delyverie with thire marke etc.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Also Hall Papers II, No. 745.

<sup>2</sup> Also Hall Papers II, No. 750.

<sup>3</sup> See below, p. 416.

*The accompte of the late Chamberlyns* (allowed), savinge onlye the charges aboute the poole in the sowthe gate, and that to bee first vewed by the Awdytors, and by them to bee allowed if they see cawse to allow of itt, for the good of the towne etc.

CCCCIII. *Assessment for maimed soldiers etc.*

Hall Papers II, No. 785. March 30, 1600. A note of the assessment of the parishes for the maymed soldiars.

St Martyns weekly, *id.* ob.      St Margarettes weekly, *id.* ob.

St Maries weekly, *id.*      St Nicholas weekly, ob.

All Sayntes weekly, ob.      Summa total weekly, *vd.*

St Martyns arrerages from xi<sup>th</sup> of June, 1593, vntill the first of Aprill, 1600, after this rate of *id.* ob. weekly ys iust xliis. iiid.

St Margarettes parishe for the like, xliis. iiid.

St Maryes for the like tyme after the rate of *id.* weekly is iuste xxviii. iid.

St Nycholas parishe for the lyke tyme after the rate of ob. weekelye ys xiiiis. *id.*

All Sayntes parishe, after the like rate and tyme, xiiiis. *id.*

Summa arrerag', viili. *xd.*

Hall Book III, p. 180. [Ap. 3, 1600.] *For maymed soldiars and Spittlehowes etc.* Memorandum the order or taxacion for maymed soldiars, and for the Spittlehowses, and Marshallsey, looke the fyle<sup>1</sup> of the said Mr Newcom, Mayor, which is remeyninge in the studdie att the Hall emongest other Recordes theire, where it appeyareth what euerye parishe hathe paid and ought to paye weekelye etc.

Hall Papers II, No. 783<sup>2</sup>. The Arrerage for maymed soldyars from the xi<sup>th</sup> of June (1593) vntil the first of Aprill (1600) for iii wholl parishes, and ii half parishes—viii. *xd.*

Whereof payd to the treasurer in releif of Thomas Yates<sup>3</sup>—xls.

†Item paid more to divers other soldiars since the statute, by the Maior for the tyme beinge—xxs.↓

So remayneth to bee paid by our head constable vnto the treasurer—vi. *xd.*

The arrerages for the marshallsey, spittle howses, & losses by fyar, etc., from the iii<sup>th</sup> of Aprill (1597) vntill the first of Aprill (1600) for iii wholl parishes and ii halfe parishes—xxxixs.

<sup>1</sup> viz. Hall Papers II, No. 785, as above.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. for 1602 Hall Papers III, No. 49.

<sup>3</sup> See above, p. 397.

†Whereof duringe this tyme paid by the parishes to suche as did gayther for losse by fyre and otherwise—xiiis. iiid. Whereof also relyeved the spittle, to the value of vis. viiid. And so remayneth to bee paid by our highe constable—xixs. 4.

#### CCCCIV. *Weights and Measures.*

Hall Book III, p. 180. [Feb. 12, 1600.] <sup>1</sup>The copie of a lettre from the Lorde Chief Judge of England—viz. After my hartie commendacions, whereas I am crediblye enformed, that not withstandinge the late repaire made vnto you by the Clarke of the Markitt of Her Maiesties moste honorable House, and throughoute the Realme, bringinge with him the letter of the Councell, lettres generallye directed to all Cities, Corporate Townes and other Liberties within the same, for a reformation to be made of all suche standerd busshells and other measures as are repugnant to the lawes and statutes in that behalfe provided, there hathe neuertheles as yet nothinge ben done therein, by you the Maior and your bretherne there, answerable to the tenor of their Lordships said lettres, albeit that to the officers further charge and troble you have since that tyme ben sonderilie soillcited therevnto, but that as before, so still, you retayne and vse your standerdes of vniust assise:—I haue thought it requisite eftsones more particularly to remember you hereof, to thend that by this so honorable a meanes taken with you by theyre Lordships said lettres rather then by constraynte of lawe by waie of Quo Warranto or otherwise (which else you ar like to be putt vnto) you may with the rest of those liberties that have likewise faulted herein, be brought vnto suche conformitie as to equitie and good dutie apparteyneth—And so, as your frend, wishinge your thoroughe and speedye accomplishment hereof, as you will answer the contraye att your perilles, doe commytt you to God. From Sergeantes Inne the xii<sup>th</sup> of Februarye 1599.

Your lovinge frende

Jo Popham.

To my lovinge frende the Maior of Leicester together with the Aldermen his bretherne there, be theis.

Hall Papers II, No. 780. [Ap. 3, 1600.] (The reply.) Our humble duties remembred to your good lordshippe, whereas by your

<sup>1</sup> Original in Hall Papers II, No. 773.



honors late lettre deliuered vnto vs by the deputie clerk of the market for her Maiestie, it hath pleased hym to call vppon vs for a reformation of our comun bushell and other measurs vsuall within our libertie, which by long custome (with vs as with many others) have growne to some more excesse then our auncient standerd of brasse remayning here sithence the yeare xii<sup>th</sup> of Henry the 7: and which also as by an exact and due triall made before vs by her highnes said officer, is found to be iust & equall with the standerd he bringeth: So are wee most willing in everie respect to shewe our duties answerable to the tenor of their lordshipps generall lettres formerlie directed vnto vs with other liberties in this behalf for the reforming of our said measurs proporcionable with the said standerd consisting only of 8 gallons to the bushell: yet neuer the lesse presuming so much vpon you and the rest of their lordshipps good favours herein, as that the same may be performed with such respect of tyme and other circumstances as may be most to the contentment of the comun subiect, & least preiudiciall to the good estate of our poore towne. And so doe humbly take our leaves of your honor. Leicester, this thirde of Aprile, 1600.

Your lordshipps to commaund.

Ed. Newcome Maior  
(and five others).

To the Righte honorable Sir John Popham Knighte, Lorde Chiefe Justice of England etc.

CCCCV. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Papers II, No. 791. [Ap. 3, 1600.] (*Bakers.*) Att this tyme, was first hard the controversye betwixt the bakers<sup>1</sup> of the towne, playnetiffes, and William Beckytt of the same, defendant, for & towchinge the bakinge of spiced breade cakes and bunnes etc. Att which tyme the said bakers & the said Beckytt could not agree, except they said bakers wold geve the said Beckytt leave to bake the said kyndes of breade one daye in the weeke, and then the said Beckett, beinge demaunded (by Mr Mayor) what quantitye of suche breades he wold then bake, answered & said, as muche as wold serve his gestes.

Ibid. No. 782. [Ap. 4, 1600.] (*Lister's case.*) First it is agreed that

<sup>1</sup> See above, pp. 376, 394.

the towne of Leicester shall putt in bondes to the Sheriffe for George Brookes, at the suite of John Lister, to answere his account this terme, and that Mr John Stanford the younger shall bee our man & of our counsell to followe that sute, & he to reteyne from tyme to tyme suche further counsell on the townes behalfe, as shalbee needfull, to answere the said Lyster, and the Chamberlyns to be bounde to the Sherife for the said George Brooke & the towne to be bounde to the Chamberlyns to save them harmelesse.

Memorandum that Mr Mayor send to the vnder Sheriffe for to haue cyther the sight of the said wrytt, or else to have a copie thereof. Mr Hunter then at this instant beinge the Sheriffes deputye came to the Hall to Mr Mayor & his bretherne, & certified them he colde fynde no suche wrytt vpon the Sheriffes fyle, and therefore there was at this present no further proceedinge in that matter.

<sup>1</sup>Hall Book III, p. 181. [Ap. 11, 1600.] *Towchinge a Meadowe Close in Mr Manners holdinge.* Item it is agreed that foure or sixe of the Aldermen shall goe to Master Manners to have conferrance with him for and towchinge the aftermathe of his meadow close (lately inclosed) lyinge neire the Marie Meadowe, which aftermathe (before the said inclosure) hathe bene vsuallie eaten by the Towne cattell, as the other meadow growndes, parcell of the Graunges, have [been] and are eaten etc.

*Towchinge our Closes near the Frithe etc.* Item it is agreed that for and towchinge the twoe Closes neire the Forest or Frithe, parcell of the Graunges, that the same shalbee cleyred by further counsell, either by purchase, feefarme, or else by lease, as oure Councell shall advise us. And to send vppe to London this nexte terme abowte the same, and other matters of the townes. And it is agreed that Mr Maior shall goe vp to London towchinge those matters (if so it pleaze him) and some others at his choyce etc.

*Lyster & the said closes.* (Agreed touching the article betwixt Mr Lyster and the town concerning our closes that if he troubles Geo. Brook for the same then the whole dealing herein shall be committed to Mr Stanford to retain counsel for the suit.)

*Towchinge Forrayne Tradesmen, etc.* Item itt is further agreed that forren tradesmen shall from henceforthe bee restrayned from traffique within our towne, accordinge to oure Charter. Provided allwaies notwithstandinge that it is agreed that forren tanners and fellmoungers vpon consideracion for their income and yeerelye

<sup>1</sup> Cf. Hall Papers II, No. 787.

pencion (att the discreation of Mr Maior and his bretherne, or the greater parte of them) and the tanner bringinge in to be solde in oure markitt halfe as muche tanned leyther theire to bee solde in the Leyther Hall, as he shall buye rowghe hides theire, and the fellmounger bringinge in halfe suche quantitye of wooll, to oure Wooll Hall weekelye, theire to bee solde, as they buye in oure markittes, shall have libertie to buye of ourr freemen butchers sloughter ware in the open markitt vpon the Sayturdaye markitt onlie, and nott to buye anye ware att all in our towne of any forrener or straunger (the Fayore daies onlye excepted) vpon payne to forfytt for euerye offence aforesaid viis. viiij*l*. And vpon their compozicion to enter into bond for the payment of their forfeitures aforesaid.

(p. 182.) *Towchinge Markhams lease etc.* Item it is agreed that the Commissioners before mencioned shall deale in Markhams lease, in keapinge the somme of tenne powndes emongest the occupiars of the land mencioned in the said lease, parcell of the towne wall and ditche of the towne of Leicester, whiche x*l*i. the Maior & Burgesses of the said towne of Leicester paid to Richarde Archer, to the vse of the said Markham, for the said lease. And as yett the same is occupied by the tenauntes thereof, withoute recompence to the towne. The which landes mencioned in the said lease, the Maior and Burgesses have in feefarme, to theym & their successors for ever.

*Chief Rentes.* Item it is agreed that from henceforthe the Chamberlyns shall not paye anye chieffe rents but suche as are knowne to bee due to be paid by the Towne.

*Towchinge the poole, springe or well in the Sowth Gate.* Item itt is agreed that Mr Thomas Clarke the late Maior shall before the xxiiii<sup>th</sup> daie of June next make parfitt, good and serviceable the poole, springe & well in the Sowthe gate att his owne charges. Or else hee to repaye that moneye backe ageyne to the towne, whiche hee did ley owte of the townes abowte the same this last yeare, which is mencioned in his Chamberlyns accompte.

*An Assesment or Leyor etc.* Item itt is agreed that the xxiiii<sup>th</sup> shall geve xs. apeece and the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> vs. apeece, and the commyners to bee taxed, towards the needes of the towne, and discharge of tenne powndes to bee repayed to Wilcockes<sup>1</sup>, and for xv*l*i. borrowed at London this last terme, and for the payment of Sawnderson<sup>2</sup>, and other the needes & matters of the townes etc. And if any of the

<sup>1</sup> See p. 417.

<sup>2</sup> See above, p. 402.

XLVIII<sup>th</sup> had rather land<sup>1</sup> xxs. for a yeare then to give vs., then they to lend, & to bee freed from givinge, and so of the XXIII<sup>th</sup>.

(p. 183.) [Ap. 24, 1600.] *Mr Maior & others to goe to London.* Item itt is agreed by theis aboue named, that Mr Maior shall go to London this terme, so as hee bee theire, att the furthest, by Sayturdaye night next after Maye daye next. And to bee accompanied with Mr Thomas Warde the Stward and Chamberlyn Myddleton and John Clarke, one of the Sergiantes at Mace, abowt the townes suites and cawses.

#### CCCCVI. *Examinations before Justices etc.*

Hall Papers II, No. 788. [Ap. 11, 1600.] (Conclusion of a bastardy charge.) Item it ys nowe inioyned by Mr Maior and Mr William Morton, Justices of Peace, of this towne of Leicester, that the said Izabell Slater shall tomorowe, beinge Sayturdaye the xii<sup>th</sup> of this present monethe of Aprill, bee carted abowte the towne in a white sheete, and after that shall openly in the open markytt stand vppe before the chamber, called the Gaynesborowe Chamber, in a white sheete, by the space of one howre, betweene the howres of xi and xii<sup>th</sup> of the clocke, and after that shall vpon the Sabbothe daye next after, beinge Sondag, present herself in St Martyns Church in the begynnynge of the sermond, in suche a place as shalbee apoynted vnto her, stand vppe in a white sheete, bare headded, and bare footed, with a white wend in the hend, and at suche tyme as the preacher shall require it at her hand, shee shall then and there acknowledge her fawlte and desyer God to forgyve her and the people present to praye for her, and with her, that shee never commytt the lyke ageyne: And this parte of her punyshement.

Hall Papers II, No. 798. [Ap. 25, 1600.] Memorandum whereas vpon Mondaye night last, William Bate of Leicester, tayllour, did greatlye abuse one of the Maiors breetherne, not onely with evill and badd wordes but did also give hym a boxe of the eare, for the which offence he was comytted to the Hall, were he remeyned ii dayes and one night, and nowe vpon his submyssyon and asking pardon and forgyvenes for the same, ys released.

Hall Papers II, No. 806. [May 6, 1600.] (The judges to the Mayor.) After our harty comendacions: There was at the last

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<sup>1</sup> land = lend.

assisses holden at Leicester one Walter Barlowe<sup>1</sup> arraigned of matters concerning his religion, whervpon he submitted himself and tooke the oathe of his alleagaunce to her Maiesty, yet notwithstanding (vppon some enformacion then given vs) wee caused him to be contynewed in prison vntill further in that behalf knowen: Thees are therefore to let you vnderstand, in regard that wee are advertised that the said Barlowe is a very aged and poore man, and in as much as wee heare of noe further matter against him, that wee are contented he should be enlarged payeing his fees, and finding suertyes for his apparaunce at the next assisses. And thus wee bidd you farewell. From Sergentes Inne, this vi<sup>th</sup> of Maye 1600.

Your loving freindes

E. Anderson

Jo. Glanville<sup>2</sup>.

#### CCCCVII. *Town and County Glovers.*

Hall Book III, p. 183. [May 24, 1600.] *Towchinge the Glovers and Artesantes of the cuntry etc.* Saturdaie the xxiiii<sup>th</sup> daie of Maye Anno regni Elizabethe nunc etc. xlii. A meetinge of Mr Maior and the Aldermen, and certen of the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup>, towchinge the Glovers and Artesantes of Mountsorell, and other markitt townes, and cuntrie townes etc. viz.

Mr Edwarde Newcome, Maior, Mr Robertt Heyricke, Mr Morton, Mr Ellyce, Mr Gyllott, Mr Rowes, Mr Thomas Chettell, Mr Will<sup>m</sup> Warde, Mr Thomas Chapman, Mr Freake and Mr Thomas Warde, of the XXIII<sup>ti</sup>, and of the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup>, Barthollomewe Middleton and Thomas Stanford Chamberlyns and Hughe Marshall, by theise agreed vpon as followethe etc.

Agreed vpon on the behalfe of the Glovers of this Burrowe of Leicester, viz. :—

(p. 184.) *Glovers*<sup>3</sup>. Firste itt is agreed that they shall have theire fyve powndes repayed them ageyne, which Mr Maior and the towne had on them in parte of payment of a more summe, which the towne shoulde have had on them, for and towards the charges in keepinge forthe of Mountsorell Glovers and other cuntrie Glovers, accordinge to the Articles indented made betweene them and the Glovers of the same etc.

<sup>1</sup> See above, p. 378.

<sup>2</sup> The two judges of assize.

<sup>3</sup> Cf. Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 311.

*Glovers an Ordynall.* Item itt is further agreed that the glovers shall have an ordynall<sup>1</sup> confirmed, accordinge to due order and forme of lawe etc. And that vpon the allowance of the said ordynall, and payment of the said *vii.* vnto them, the said articles indented and bonde from the towne to them, for performance of the said articles, to bee delyvered, as scroles to bee concealed and made voyde, for and on bothe partes etc.

*Glovers of the cuntrye to bee lycensed etc.* Item it is further agreed, that the glovers of the towne, shall have of everie glover of the cowntrye, whiche shalbee licensed to vse our markitt vs. apeece, and *xiiid.* yeerelye for brotherhoode moneye to their owne vse: Provided allwayes that all suche glovers, as shalbee so licensed, shall dwell in markitt townes (and so contynewe), and have beene apprentices accordinge to the lawe, or ells not to bee licensed or suffred att all to vse oure markitt etc.

*Mountsorell.* Firste it is agreed that the Glovers of Mowntsorell are licensed for the Sayturdaie markett in Leicester to vse their trades in buynge and sellinge: Payinge *xs.* apeece for their fynes, and *xxs.* apeece yeerely so lounge as they do vse their trades in our markitt. The said *xxs.* per annum to be paid quarterlye. Also they muste paye *xiiid.* apeece yeerelye to the glovers of the towne of Leicester for brotherhoode monye, and to be paide att the firste quarter: provided alwayes that if they, or anye of them, buye or sell anye wares cullorabic<sup>2</sup> for anye others then everie man for himselfe, *bona-fida (sic)* withowte anye frawde, therevppon their composicion to bee voyde. Provided also allwaies, that if anye of them will give over oure markitt, that then vpon a quarters warnynge, his composicion to cease, and therevppon never afterwarde to vse oure markitt in their trades afterwarde. And the firste quarters payment of their annuytie to bee att Michaellmas next etc.

For other Markett Townes suche or the like orders to be observed for the moste good of oure towne etc.

Hall Papers II, No. 833. [July 5, 1600.] (R. Herrick to the Mayor.) Yt may please yowre worship to vnderstond y<sup>at</sup> I did delyvar yowre lettar vnto the Earle of Huntingdon. And he did lyke verry well y<sup>at</sup> yow had growne to agrement with Mownsorrill men, but sayd yf he sholld have to doe betwixt Loughborough men and yow, my lady<sup>3</sup> having all redy soom hard opynnyons of him, woold take furdar exceptions to him. I desyred his honnor y<sup>at</sup> yt

<sup>1</sup> book of trade regulations.

<sup>2</sup> covertly.

<sup>3</sup> George Earl of Huntingdon's wife, Dorothy, was the daughter of Sir John Port.

woolld please him to leave the matter vnto vs for y<sup>at</sup> I did thinke his honnor had no suche cawse to affect Loughborough and to require what favor he thought good of vs for Ashbye<sup>1</sup> men, and we woold get yt; his answer was y<sup>at</sup> he will be at Leicester of Wensday nyght next, and yf yt please yow to speake with him there, he will take ordar with yow to yowr lyking, which yf yow will strik of that string, to offar my lord favor for Ashbye gloovars, which I think will silldom trobell vs, I doe thinke yow may easily entreet my lord to leave Loughborough to yowre sellfe to deale with them as yow may. For yowre mesurs<sup>2</sup> I have bene abowt them; I cannot yet have them doone to my mynd; here is soomwhat to doe for thear mesurs<sup>2</sup> here, as I will shew yow at my coomyng home; yowr mooney is not all coom in but by promes will coom before I goe away.

Thus taking my leave loving(ly) y<sup>e</sup> 5 of July commend your worship with all the rest to the protection of the most highest.

Your worships cosin and frend

Robart Heyricke.

CCCCVIII. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Papers II, No. 846. [July 20, 1600.] A childe begotten in the cuntrye gaole in Leicester by one—, a person in the said gaole, of the bodye of one—, daughter of one—, wydowe, who vndertook the keepinge of the said childe, so as the said child shoulde not be chargable to the towne of Leicester, and nowe refuzethe to kepe the said childe, wherevpon shee ys nowe for that cawse, commytted to y<sup>e</sup> gayole without bayle or mayneprice, vntill shee do put in good suertes for the keepinge of the same childe and discharge of the burghes of Leicester.

Also it is agreed to send to Mr Recorder the lettre which was sent from the Lorde Keeper, towchinge Lyster. And also to send to hym the newe commission for the last subsydye, to have his counsell in those matters.

Also they that shall goe to London shall sue forthe of the Exchequer, an abstrakt vnder the Exchequer seale, for the leyvyng of fyfte and sixte fyfteenes and tenthes for the burrowe of Leicester, with the subbarbes of Leicester called the Byshoppes Fee, and if anye

<sup>1</sup> Ashby de-la-Zouch was the home of the Earl.

<sup>2</sup> weights and measures.

date bee thereof, then lett it beare date before the abstrakts for the countye.

Also they that doe goe to London, to bringe downe oute of the Starre Chambre privye seales ageynst these viz. (blank).

CCCCIX. *The Subsidy Commissioners and Weights and Measures.*

Hall Papers II, No. 856. [July 24, 1600.] (The Recorder to the Mayor.) Right worshipfull Mr Maior, touchinge your commission for the subsidie, as yt fallethe out, ys a good meanes to redresse the mischeife, for, that not beinge accordinge to your corporacion, ys a just meanes to make suyte to alter the same<sup>1</sup>. And the rather, that my lord keepers lettre att the last commission was to the same effect. For alteringe your newe commissioner, (besydes other helpes) his owne lettres will manifest his mallice towards youe<sup>2</sup>. For redresse whereof, youe must sende speedylie and secretlye, and yf youe might procure (as I thinke youe maye) my Lord Huntingdons lettre to my Lord Keeper yt were lykelye to hitt the mark. Yf youe meane to have George Parkyns<sup>3</sup> helpe, youe must do yt withe speede, and withe all, youe maye not displease people that are affected by greate lordes. I meant heerein Lister. As touchinge your measures, I think yt convenient youe followe my Lord Treasures lettre with your lettre to him of your chardge about the same a fewe yeares past. Touchinge Lister youe can conceave what favour he is lykelye to have, and what an obstackell he maye be to all your proceedinges. The meetest man for the followinge of these thinges is the bearer heereof. And what youe doe, doe yt speedylie and secretlye, for yt is lykelye Sir John Graye hathe procured greate frindes for y<sup>e</sup> accomplishing of this smale matter. And so in haste I leave. This xxiiii<sup>th</sup> of Julye 1600.

Yours allwaies assured

Ri. Parkyns.

Hall Book III, p. 184. [June 26, 1600.] Copy of the Lord Treasurer (Sir J. Buckhurst's) and Sir John Fortescue's letter, ordering the standards to be sent to the Exchequer. It recites the statute of 11—12 Henry VII, requiring brass standards to remain in the Treasury of the Exchequer, after which pattern the chief officers of the towns are to have the like; and, as great differences are found, to the inconvenience of subjects and impeachment of the statute's intention to secure uniformity, the Mayor and bailiff of Leicester are required to send up their standards, bushel, gallon and pint.

<sup>1</sup> See p. 413.

<sup>2</sup> See pp. 385—6.

<sup>3</sup> The writer's son.



[July 25, 1600.] (p. 185.) *Towchinge the xx<sup>th</sup> etc.* Firste att this meetinge there hathe beene manye speeches had, for and concerninge the taxacion of the fyveth and sixte fyftees and tenthes, butt noe agreement made, for that some of them wolde have itt payde as heretofore it hathe beene vsed, viz. the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> xs. apeece, and the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> vs. apeece, and other some of them wolde haue it taxed by the parishes, wherevppon the Hall was devided, and the greater parte was that it shoulde bee payde by the parishes etc. Nothinge done herein.

Item the Lorde Highe Treasurer of England, his lettre nowe openlye readde, towchinge the sendinge vppe of our Brason Standerdes. Itt is therefore nowe agreed that the said Brasons Standers shalbee sent vppe accordinge to his honors said lettres. The copie of whiche letter dothe hereafter ensewe, and the letter itselfe remayneth vpon the [file] of this yeare of Mr Newcom, Maior etc.

*Lorde Keepers lettre.* Item att this present the Lord Keepers lettre concerninge Lyster was openlye readd, together with Lysters petition to his Honor. The whiche lettre and petition remayneth vpon the fyle for this yeare.

Hall Papers II, No. 852. (Undated petition from the Mayor.) To the Right Honorable Mr Thomas Egerton, Knighte, Lorde Keeper of the Great Seale of Englande.

In moste humble wise sheweth vnto your good lordshippe your honors suppliant Edwarde Newcome Maior of her Maiesties borrowe of Leicester, that whereas that corporation hath beene heretofore by some of our auncient chartres called the borrowghe of Leicester and by some other the towne of Leicester, and nowe latelye by a chartre graunted by the Queenes moste excellent Maiestie that nowe is, newlye incorporate, the jurisdiction enlarged and called the borrowe of Leicester, whereuppon this last yeere, by your lordshippes speciall order, the commission for assessinge the subsidie was made accordinglye. And whereas (albeitt the appoyntinge of commissioners for the subsidie with us is and hath beene your lordshippes and your predecessors most absolute righte) yett maye itt please your good lordshipp, usuallie heretofore there hathe not beene anye forreyne commissioner for the subsidie within the corporation, butt suche as the towne hathe in some sorte commended to your lordshipp or your predecessors, yett soe itt is, maye itt please your good lordshipp, that I have nowe receyved a commission for taxinge this present subsidie by the name of the towne of Leicester, without any speciall mencion of our newe liberties by their names, wherein allso Sir John

Graye knight<sup>1</sup> is nowe newelie named a commissioner with us, to our further burden and charge, albeitt wee have, besides him, as many commissioners of the countye as ever were, and those gentlemen of speciall name and truste, as namely Mr Tho. Cave one of the deputie Leivetenantes, Mr Hen. Cave, whoe hath bene, and Mr Geo. Bellgrave who nowe is Sheyriffe of the Countie, and this number, yea fewer, hath bene thoughte burdensome inoughe to our poore corporation. And Sir John Grayes threatninge of revenge vnto vs, bothe by wordes and lettre is and hathe beene suche as we greatelie feare his indifferencie<sup>2</sup>. In tender consideration whereof maye itt please your good lordshipp to disburden vs of Sir John Graye, and cawse this commission to be made accordinge to the laste, and so wee shalbee better able to parforme her Maiestie the servise and dutie expected, especially in our newe liberties, and bounden daielie to praye to God lonnge to preserve your good lordshipp in all earthlie honor and in heavenly felicitye for ever to endure.

Memorandum that the commission for the said subsidie was renewed by the name of the burrowe of Leicester as well within liberties as withoute, together with their newe liberties etc. But Sir John Graye, knight, colde not be gott oute of the commission, wherevpon Sir Ed. Hastings, knight, was put into the commission. So there is nowe these commissioners viz. The Maior of Leicester, Sir Ed. Hastings, knight, Sir John Graye, knight, Tho. Cave, Richard Parkyns Recorder of the Burghe of Leicester, Henry Cave, George Belgrave, James Clark, William Morton and Robert Heyrycke, or any twoe of them.

CCCCX. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 186. [July 25, 1600.] *Coles.* Item towchinge the coles this yeare for the poore, wheras Bartholomewe Myddleton one of the Chamberlyns hathe this yeare inned<sup>3</sup> coles for the poore as he saithe, the which coles hee hathe leyde att his howsse, contrarye to the order and good likeinge of the Mayor and Burgesses of this Burrowe of Leicester: Itt is nowe therefore ordered and agreed, that the coles for the poore shalbee leyde att the Towne Hall, and that the wholl stocke of moneye for cole, shalbee bestoed in coles for the poore, and if anye coles att the yeares ende remayne vnsold that then the

<sup>1</sup> On his hostility to the corporation see pp. 385, 412.

<sup>2</sup> doubt his fairness.

<sup>3</sup> inned=got in.

Chamberlyns succedinge shall receyve the said remaynder of coles by weichte after *vid.* the hundrethe. And all the aforesaid coles to be caryed and leyd att the Towne Hall in the place accustomed before the Feaste of St Mychaell the Arke Angell next comynge vppon payne and forfayture of *vli.*

*Certen appoynted to compownde with the Cuntrie Artisentes.* Also att this present it is agreed that Mr Maior for the tyme beinge, Mr Will<sup>m</sup> Norrice, Mr Robertt Heyricke, Mr Ellyce, Mr Gillott, Mr Rowes, Mr Thomas Chettell, Mr Will<sup>m</sup> Warde, and Mr Thomas Warde or any fyve of them, shall compownd with the cowntrie Glovers, and other trades men, for libertie in our markitt. So as non do compownd, or be compownded withall vnder xs. fyne, and quarterlye vs. att the leaste.

Hall Papers II, No. 854. [July 29, 1600<sup>1</sup>.] Item it ys nowe agreed to sende vppe the brason strike, gallon and quarte, accordinge to the Lord Treasurers lettre, togyether with a lettre to the Lord Treasurer.

Item it ys nowe also agreed, to send vppe a lettre to Lister concernynge the Lord Keepers lettre.

Item it is agreed to send vppe the commission for the subsidye and to renewe the same ageyne and to leave oute Sir John Graye and insteede of Mr James Clark to put in Mr (blank).

Item it ys agreed that John Clark shall goe to London abowte the townes busynes.

[Aug. 13, 1600.] (p. 187.) *Wayinge of Wooll etc.* That Christofer Alisander and Henrye Wattes shall have the kepinge of the Wooll Hall, and wayinge of the wooll, that shall be thither brought, either of them to be bounde with suerties to the Corporacion of Leicester in *li.* apeece for their honest behavior, and safe kepinge of suche wooll as shall be brought to the Wooll Hall and delyuered vnto them. Takinge for euerie drowght vppon sale ob., so as no drought be aboue a todde. And for euerye drought of wooll that shall bee lefte with them vppon truste before sale q<sup>a</sup> etc.

[Aug. 29, 1600.] Fridaye the 29 of Auguste ut supra. By Mr Newcom Maior, Mr Heyricke, Mr Tho. Clark, Mr Gyllott, Mr Rowes, Mr Will<sup>m</sup> Warde, Mr Freake and Mr Tho. Warde. Agreed vpon as followeth viz. :—

*The like, no wool to be wayed or sold, but in the Wooll Hall.* Firste it is agreed that the Acte and order latelie made for the selling and wayinge of wooll at the Wooll Hall shall bee put in

<sup>1</sup> Misdated as 41 Eliz.

execucion, and suche townesmen as haue sithence the makinge of the said lawe, sold and wayed theire wooll att whom at theire howses, or in anye other place within the Buroughe of Leycester oute of the Wooll Hall, shall paye the fynes forfeited etc.

(p. 188.) *A payre of Swannes.* Memorandum. One payre of swannes goinge at the Newarke Milnes hauinge on the beake and narr legge this marke ▽ and on the farr legge this marke ◇ sometye beinge Fraunces Belgraves of the Burrowe of Leicester, gentleman, and weare by him geuen to the vse of the said Buroughe of Leicester the xv<sup>th</sup> daie of Auguste, 1600.

#### CCCCXI. *Scheme for the purchase of wool.*

Hall Papers II, No. 862. [Aug. 22, 1600.] (The Mayor to Sir A. Noel<sup>1</sup>.) Sir, our heartie commendacions remembred etc. May yt please you to be certified, that the Queenes most excellent Maiestie that now ys (moste gratusly affectinge the good of our corporacion, and especialye the setting of the poore on worke for their better relieffe and mayntenance) hath granted vnto vs a most free markett for buynge and sellinge of wooll and woollen yarne within our towne. And to the intent this her Maiesties most royall favour should take effecte accordinge to her gracious good purpose therein, we have made a very fitt Woolllhall with convenient store-houses, and proclaymed our markett dayes Wednesday, Fryday and Saturdaye weekelye. And for as much as wee may not buy wooll but in our Woolhall, neither to sett our poore on worke, nor to furnishe our hall for sale bringe yt in tradinge, and for as muche also as the countrie is not yet acquaynted with our wooll markett beinge proclaymed but Saturday laste, and that there is nowe some more of buyers then sellers, wee have therefore made bold to intreate your worshipp especially, amongst some others of the cheifest growers of our good neighbors and countriemen, to creditt our Woolllhall with sale of there wooll, where the shall have suche present price for the same as yt is nowe worthe, or securitie to their likinge that will sell vpon tyme, and good securitie for the safetie of their wooll, which will bringe yt thither and will stay for further sale, for which purpose we have sent this bearer, John Clarke, one of our officers, with this our lettre to your worshipp, earnestly intreatinge your favour in this

<sup>1</sup> Sheriff of Rutland; he is famous as a sheriff who made known his own return as Member of Parliament.

respecte, in grantinge our requeste, in forwardinge this good purpose of our most gracious soveraigne, wherein wee the rather presume for that we have ever founde, and more doe dayly heare of, your worships inclination to the good of our poore corporacion. And thus cravinge your worships answeere hereof by this bearer, wee leave you to the most mercifull protection of the Lord Jesus: this 22nd of August 1600.

Your worships verie lovinge frende  
Edward Newcome, Maior.

To the right worshipfull Sir Andrewe Nowell, Knight.

Hall Papers III, No. 864. [Aug. 24, 1600.] Sir A. Nowell's reply. He will try to help if the matter does not cause him too much loss.

Ibid. No. 870. [Sep. 2, 1600.] Sir A. Nowell replies that he may lose customers for his wool if he deals with Leicester only for a year. He offers to deal with them at a fixed price for seven years, weighing the wool as soon as it is woven, or if they will give bond to become his chapmen for life, he will take the best current price. In full in Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 310.

Ibid. No. 872. [Sep. 8, 1600.] The same to the same discussing 24s. or 24s. 6d. a tod, ready money, as a possible price.

#### CCCCXII. *Various Receipts.*

Box 11 A, No. 1. 43 and 44 Eliz. fee farm receipts for the chantry of the Corpus Christi Gild, obit lands, land of the Gild of St Margaret, the College by the Castle, St John's Hospital and St Leonard's, parcel of the Grange and the Mill of Leicester.

Receipts from the Bridge-masters of Loughborough, 4d. according to the will of Simon Mudd of Loughborough<sup>1</sup>, 39 Eliz., paid by the Mayor and burgesses of Leicester, 1600 and 1601, 1602.

No. 2. Lawyers' bills of 43—45 Eliz.

No. 3. [Oct. 13, 1601—2.] Receipt from Anth. Kynersley £10, for rent of perquisites and profits of Courts.

No. 4. [June 26, 1600.] The schoolmaster Geo. Wilcock's receipt for rent of buildings. £10.

No. 5. [May 5, 1601.] Receipts for "maihemed (maimed) souldyers."

#### CCCCXIII. *Petitions of John Frith.*

Hall Papers II, No. 866. [Undated.] To the worshipfull the Maiore and Aldermen of the towne and burroughe of Leicester. In moste humble wise shewethe vnto your worshippes, your suppliant John Frithe, late of the citie of Dubline, within the realme of Ireland:

<sup>1</sup> See p. 332.

That whereas by the reason of the manie trobells there, he is nowe desirous to settle him selfe within this towne, to thentente to keepe the poore on worke, by imployeinge his smale stocke: And for that your suppliaunt will not enterprise the same withoute your good wills and likinge, he moste humblie beseichethe your lawefull favores, that vpon reasonabell consideracone, he maie be admytted to be incorporated as a freeman, for the which your suppliaunte wilbe verie thankfull, and willinge to answere suche duties as in equitie shall be imposed vpon him: And for the better testimonye of your suppliauntes carriage and behaviore heretofore, it maie appeare by a testimonie vnder the handes of the Privie Counsell in Irelande, as alsoe by the Maior of Dublin vnder his office, withe the cities seale anexed. And for further certificate hereof, the right worshipfull Sir Henrie Harington Knight is well pleased, to testifie the same. And for your worshipps favores herein, youre said suppliaunte shalbe ever bound etc.

Hall Papers III, No. 8. (Undated petition from the same.) Most humbly shewyth vnto your worshipes your suppliant John Frythe, that wheareas he hathe bene hearetofore an humble suttor vnto the worshipefulle Master Mayore and the rest of the Aldermen hys bretherne, to be admytted into your socyete and corporatyone of thys towne to macke hys abode and dwelling heare, pretending<sup>1</sup> to have set the poure on worcke, and now havinge to hys great charge madde tryalle of the place, dothe fynd that thear ys not suffycient water about the sayd towne, ether for mackynge collors, or bleching of lynane, wheareby your suppliant shall be dryven to provyd some other place fyt for y<sup>at</sup> porposse; and for as muche as your sade suppliant hathe not bene by any meanes chargable to the sayd towne, he humblye cravythe tollerance for y<sup>at</sup> fyne which was imposed vpon hym by your favors to be remytted, yf yt so happene y<sup>at</sup> he do remove; otherwysse he shalbe wyllinge to fulfyll and acomplyche the same, and in so doinge the premysys consydered he shall aknollege hym sellfe most dewly bound.

#### CCCCXIV. *The Earl on Leicester market.*

Hall Papers II, No. 876. [Sept. 10, 1600.] Mr Maior, I have been often moved by the inhabitantes of Loughborowe that they maye vse your markett as heretofore they have done, and for that purpose the last weeke sent my man to Leicester to speake with yow about

<sup>1</sup> for "intending."

yt, and your beinge not at home was cause that he loste that labour ; nowe I am advertised that of some of them ther hathe bene processe since served to answeare that matter. I can be but sorrye to see suche courses performed, contrarye, as I take yt, to all equitye or lawe, yf the right of thinges were handled in ther kynde ; moreover a generall hurte, as yt maye well be supposed, will herevpon ensue, not onelye to your towne ytself but to the wholl cuntrye besides, which is the cheefeste matter y<sup>at</sup> I looke after, althoughe I trusted your promise that no sute should be begune for the same. Therefore lett me intreate you to staye further inconveniences, to ceasse the sute begun<sup>1</sup>, and to suffer those inhabitantes to vse your markett as they before have done. Wherein I shall not onelye hold myself kyndelye vsed, but be forward to doe your towne as great a pleasure vppon anye motion made vnto me for yt. Otherwise I must give yow notice that I will doe my best to releive them and make myself a partie to the sute. And so with my commendacions bid yow right hartelye farewell. Ashebye Dalazouche the x<sup>th</sup> of September 1600.

Your verye lovinge frende

George Huntingdon.

CCCCXV. *Notes on Town Business.*

Hall Papers II, No. 879. [Sep. 1600.] Remembrances for and ageynst St Mathewes Daye, to certyfy the Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen of, viz.—

First the towne is still in debte to Mr Elcocke 1 *cl*.i. and the interest.

Also the towne ys in debte to one Mr Chapman of London, xxx*li*. Was due at Candlemas last.

Also order to be taken this next terme for our cawses ageynst Mr Lyster, and answeare to bee made of my Lorde Keepers lettre, touchinge the said Lyster.

Also order to be taken for the lookinge to our suites ageynst the glovers in the Starre Chambre.

Also order to be taken towchinge the peece of grownde Mr Beamount hathe taken from the milners.

Also order wold be taken with Mr Pilkington, towchinge the dekeyinge of the farme late Wightmans etc.

And the like emongst the tenementes of the Graunges, for the not repayinge of the same.

<sup>1</sup> The suit against the glovers.

Also concernynge Mr Holte, for the not repayringe of St Maryes Close and other landes therevnto belonging.

Also order wolde bee nowe sett downe for the certen assessinge of the ii last xv<sup>ens</sup> etc. which should have beene payd before mydsummer last, withoute any further delaye.

There wolde be some present order taken for the levyinge vppe of the fynes, amercyantes and canmole monye.

#### CCCCXVI. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 191. [Sep. 21, 1600.] (Assizers of victuals with the Mayor, "for that he is a victualer viz. an inkeeper." Subsidy.)

[Sep. 28 (Sunday), 1600.] *Glovers.* Item itt is (att this metinge) agreed that the orders or ordinall for the glovers of this boroughe of Leicester, withe the consent of Mr Maior that nowe is, and the Maior elected, and as manie of the Bretherene as will meete aboute the same, on Wednesdaie nexte, shalbee therevppon allowedd and confirmed vnder the towne seall etc.

[Sep. 29, 1600.] (p. 192.) *Graunge, that in Mr Doctors occupacion to be leased.* Also it is nowe agreed that that parte of the Graunge with thappartenaunces nowe in the occupacion of Mr Doctor Chippingdale, shalbee lett by lease for terme of years to summe frendes of truste for the vse of the Corporacion, anye former acte to the contrarye notwithstandinge etc.

(p. 195.) *Wache.* Memorandum that yearelye vpon Assencion Even the wache is to bee somoned, and is to begynne vpon Assencion Daye, and is to contynue vntill Michaellmas. And yearelye vpon Assentions Evens Even, the Constables and Third barowes are to bee somoned by the Mace bearer to appeyre before the Mayor, to receyve theire charche.

#### CCCCXVII. *Chamberlains' Account.*

1599—1600. *Rents...Reccipts...* of the 24 aldermen for and towards the payment of sixe playes 16s....the 48 (the same) 40s. 6d.... *Total* £367. 6s. 8½d.

*Guiftes...* Earle of Darbies players Oct. 16, 20s....Countis of Huntington...a new yeeres guifte £3. 8s. 4d....Earl of Lincolnes players...Lorde Haywards<sup>1</sup> players...a poore woman and her childe...

<sup>1</sup> Howard's.



1s....Lord Morleyes playars who did not playe 10s....a bearewarde att Mr Maiors feaste...Queenes Majesties players more (etc.) 30s....Earle of Huntingdon his players...Earle of Penbrokes players...proclamacions for woad...a poore woman...sent forth of the towne...2s.... Earle of Huntingdon his players the secound tyme...Sir Henrye Harrington att his then comynge out of Irelande (16 June)...Lorde Dudlies players...

*Closes* (charges on the suit). (Charges on the suit for discharge of toll. Soldiers' charges.)

*Reparacions*...locke and key...for Clement Greenes boxe or the poore folks boxe...for a cheyne for the poore mans boxe...att the olde hall, to locke suspicious and badd persons in, from breaking (out)...Cowe pasture bridge...wyndowes at the heighe crosse...a brande to burne prisoners withall...the Wool Hall...

*Fees, wages*...to the Jurye for the leete for Belgrave gate...Southe gate leete...certificates for the Bishoppes Fee for the seconde subsidie ...goinge to seeke a prisoner that brake out of the olde hall, for three daies...to a third barowe<sup>1</sup> for takeinge uppe of a fyllie and for her meate...for dressinge of a childs heade that was scabde 5s....carte to carte a man and a woman aboute the towne...twoe queyre of paper to copie our newe charter and other wrytings for Mr Maior to have...woodd and coles for a fyar for them that satt upp to copie oute the said chartre and wrytings...for there paynes 8s....cartinge of a bad woman...waytinge of Mr Maior att Mydsomer fayor...gowne for Clement Greene...a pryvie sessions concerninge Mr Clarke...payor of swannes...letters...for the discharge of the spittlehowse...

*Totall* £357. 12s. 5d.....remayneth due to the chamber £9. 14s. [3¼d.]<sup>2</sup>

#### CCCCXVIII. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 196. [Oct. 7, 1600.] *For commynge to the Sermonds in the weeke daye, and for tiplinge and drinckinge in y<sup>e</sup> Sermonde tyme etc.* Firste it is agreed that the Acte made in the yeare of the Mayraltie of Mr Will<sup>m</sup> Ludlam for commynge to the Sermondes in the weekedaye<sup>3</sup> shalbee putt in execucion, and suche as make defaulte therein to forfytt for euery defaulte xii*d*. And also those that shall hawnte Alehowses in the sermonde tyme to forfitt for everie defaulte xii*d*. apeece. And the Alehowsse keper or victualer that dothe suffer any to vse tiplinge and drinkinge in theirowses

<sup>1</sup> frithborh.

<sup>2</sup> torn.

<sup>3</sup> See p. 242.

in the sermonde tyme, to forfitt for everie defaulte iiis. iiiid. Straungers in theire travell, and for theire lauffull recreation, onlie excepted.

(Commissioners to set and sell land appointed.)

*A Cage.* Also it is further agreed that theire shalbee a cage presentlye made, and to be sett vppe in the place called the Barrell Crosse, or neire their abowtes, etc.

(p. 198.) (A Mountsorrell and a Loughborough man admitted to compound for leave to use the market on Saturdays<sup>1</sup>.)

### CCCCXIX. *Notes of various town suits etc.*

Hall Papers III, No. 4. [Oct. 15, 1600.] Letter from the Mayor and Brethren to Mr Baston one of the attorneys in the Star Chamber at his lodgings in Gray's Inn : asking his former accustomed care in the town's suit against foreign tradesmen trading contrary to custom and charters : a fee of 6s. 8d. sent, and list of persons served with "suppeyneys."

Ibid. No. 5. [Oct. 17, 1600.] Will. Peche acknowledges receipt of an indenture of articles between the Mayor and burgesses and John Lyster gent., an obligation to perform the articles and a paper of orders touching the closes in the Frith.

Dethick notes the return of the same, Jan. 1601.

Ibid. No. 6. [Oct. 29, 1600.] Examination of Edward Perkyn, apprentice of Mr Morton an Alderman, linen draper, on the delivery of certain stuffs "myllyon fusteyn" and cambric.

Ibid. No. 13. [Oct. 29, 1600.] The Earl of Huntingdon to the Mayor on behalf of Hugh King<sup>2</sup> of Sileby who served his apprenticeship and was made free and put to a yearly fine of 2s. which he has paid to the Chamberlains ever since : now it is proposed to expel him unless he pays the greater fine or makes his abode in Leicester. The Earl asks that he be admitted according to the service of apprenticeship.

Ibid. No. 7. [Nov. 21, 1600.] Mr Lyster having refused Mr Bowes' offer of a composition of £100 (whereas he agreed to take £90 as appears from Mr Peck's letter) there shall be no composition with him further than some reasonable gratuity for his pains and friendship.

Mr Freake undertook to provide 6 score "rooks"<sup>3</sup> of coal to serve the poor from the "towne cownte" for a year, at 7d. the hundred. He shall have the use of that part of the old hall which was used for coal and the stock of money of the coal and the use of the weights and "ballonses" for £8. 6s. 8d. with option of renewing the bargain. If he refuses, then he is to pay the stock of money to the chamberlains. The chamberlains received 12d. in earnest for the performance of the bargain.

Searchers appointed for hides, tallow, skins and fells.

Hall Book III, p. 198. [Nov. 30, 1600.] *Ex parte Geo. Somarfeld.* (Tenant of the town close in the Frith near the Forest of Leicester and parcel of the

<sup>1</sup> March 6, 1601. Hall Book III, p. 202. Thos. Cotton gent. was made a free burgess, and freed from bearing office.

<sup>2</sup> The name is torn, but see below, p. 423.

<sup>3</sup> A "rook" filled a waggon. See *Nott. Records* III. p. 498.

Granges called the Newark Granges paid £5 towards the lawsuit in defence of the close belonging to the Granges. For which sum he is to have favour in his fine on a new compounding with the corporation for the said close.)

Hall Papers III, No. 1. [Dec. 3, 1600.] <sup>1</sup> Draft of a letter from the Mayor and Brethren to the Earl of Huntingdon who has written on behalf of Hugh King of Sileby tanner, made free of Leicester, that he be not expelled. The records have been searched and the facts are stated. The Earl has been misinformed. He never paid fine, as the Chamberlains' accounts shew. But they will let him compound. They ask that their dispute with the Loughborough tradesmen may be remembered so that they may be brought to acknowledge the Queen's grant to Leicester for admittance of their trading: "so that as our grant is general so the acknowledgment therof may be answerable."

Hall Papers III, No. 15. [Dec. 12, 1600.] Henry Beaumont to the Mayor on behalf of Mrs Freeman cess'd in the subsidy as one of the corporation, she dwelling within (the) Newark, "a liberty I have taken & hold from H. M. by a lease before you graunted." He has shewn the matter to the Recorder and others of the Brethren and marvels "this should be offered" to him again. "I would be glad I might enjoy that which is my owne with all your leaves, but yf their be no remedy but that this course must be taken against me, without the consent of some of them which were commissioners with you, as they have told me, I must defende my right & will doe, & take noe wronge yf by lawe or right I canne helpe it<sup>2</sup>."

CCCCXX. *Taxation of the Borough.*

Hall Book III, p. 198. [Dec. 19, 1600.] (Copy of a letter from the Earl.) Mr Maior, the laste service commaunded from Her Maiestie, & the Councill, to be levied within my Levetenauncye, I spared your towne. Nowe have I an newe commaundement lately come to me, for the leyinge of certene men oute of this Countie for the like service. Towardes the which, I will onlie chardge one man to be provided oute of your towne; and because for the other services heretofore manye of the meanest sorte of your towne have beene driven to laye downe there porcions equall with those of better wealthe and accompte then themselves, I have thought good for their better ease and quyetinge of there dislikes (and lykewise regardinge not to over presse the better sorte) to make nominacion of sixe suche, thoughte one of them were well hable to beare it, to furnishe this man by you to be appoynted with murryane, bandylo<sup>3</sup>, calyware, sworde & girdle; likewise for coate, dooblitt & hose let them send with the man, to answeare that chardge, with the conduct

<sup>1</sup> Torn and imperfect, so that the sense in parts is uncertain.

<sup>2</sup> There are numerous other letters on the question of this payment of subsidy in Hall Papers III.

<sup>3</sup> for "bandyroll."

money also: and what that will come to, they shalbe their owne witnesses, and paie it. The sixe persons that I will have chardged for the furnishinge of this man are Robertt Heyrycke, Will<sup>m</sup> Morton, Thomas Clarke, Will<sup>m</sup> Noryce, Thomas Chapman and James Ellice, whoe if they or anye of them, vpon your knowledge given me, dislike of it, let me presentlye be informed, that Her Maiesties service be not hindered nor neglected—for the choyce of the man, see their bee speciall care had, that he bee verie sufficient & able, of gode carriadge, & honest conversacion of lief, of strounge constitucione of bodye, fitt for warr service, and that hee bee suche a one as have skill in shootinge in a peece, eyther in fowlinge peece or other; & likewise that you take one that is either a carpenter, a smythe, a sadler, a brickleyar, or a hewarre of stonne, if any suche bee in your towne fitt for this service; and that you haue special regard for the selectinge of the man to be as is aforesaid, & noe vagarant or suspected persone, or likelye to rune away; and that they fayle not to bringe or send hym to Ashebye Delazouche on Sayturdaye the XXVII<sup>th</sup> of this December by tenne of the clocke in thaffore noone, then & their to bee readye with the reste, forthwith to bee delyuered over to suche as I shall appoynte for the conductinge of them to the said porte of Chester, hereof fayle they not at their vttermoste perilles, as they, or anye of them will answeere the contrarye. Donyngton Parke this XIX<sup>th</sup> of December 1600.

Your loving frende

George Huntingdon.

To my lovinge frende, Mr Mayor of Leicester, give theise, withe speede.

Hall Papers III, No. 16. [Dec. 20, 1600.] (The Mayor and Aldermen to the Earl of Huntingdon. They will have a man ready at Ashby as required: not doubting that the charge may be laid on the whole town as heretofore.) “Wee do thincke that it wilbe a meane to sett greater discretion amongst us, & dyvers of us are deper charged in subsidies & privy seales when others have not been towched, which wee thinck might as well have been nominated as ourselves. And whereas your honor saythe that the meynere sorte of our towne have beene dryven to ley downe there porcens with those of better welthe then themselves, we are able to prove unto your honor that yt ys not soe, but that the Mayor and Justices do proporcion suche charges (so neyre as they can) accordinge to every mans habillytie.”

Hall Book III, p. 199. [Jan. 16, 1601.] *A Taxacion, xxiiii<sup>th</sup>.* Firste itt is agreed, that the xxiiii<sup>th</sup> Aldermen shalbee devided into three viii<sup>th</sup>s, and the firste Eight to be taxed att iii*li*. apeece, And the seconde Eight, to bee taxed at xlvi*s*. viii*d*. apeece, And the third Eight, to bee taxed att xxxiii*s*. iiiii*d*. apeece.

*A taxacion, xlviii<sup>th</sup>.* Also itt is agreed that the eight and fortie burgesses shalbee devided into three sixteenes. And the firste xvi<sup>en</sup> to bee taxed at xxvi*s*. viii*d*. apeece. And the second xvi<sup>en</sup> att x*s*. apeece. And the thirde xvi<sup>en</sup> to be taxed att xiii*s*. iiiii*d*. apeece.

*A taxacion ouer the Commoners.* Also it is further agreed, that all y<sup>e</sup> beste Commoners (beinge free Burgesses) shalbee also taxed, accordinge to theire severall habillities. And further itt is agreed by the greater parte nowe assembled, that theise taxacions aboue specified, to stande firme and staple, and to bee presentlye collected and gaythered vppe. And to bee absolutely and freelye geven to the towne, for and towards the payment of Mr Elcocke his debte, and Mr Chapman his debt etc.

Item itt is further agreed and also ordered, that this present taxacion bee not a president for anye suche taxacion hereafter.

Also itt is further agreed, that for and towchinge the charges of the laste soldyar sent into Ireland (accordinge to the lettre aboue written) that the one halfe thereof (notwithstandinge the said lettre) shall bee borne by the towne, and shalbe presently payde by the Chambarlyns of the Burrowe of Leicester, to the parties charged by the said lettre, to sett fourthe the said soldyar.

[Jan. 22, 1601.] *Concerning the suit of the Closcs etc.* (Concerning the suit betwixt the town and Mr Lyster, it is referred to our counsel, to deal herein either by the common law or by suit in the Chancery or both as they shall think best.)

(p. 200.) [Jan. 31, 1601.] *Towchinge the former taxacion etc.* (The assessment of 16 Jan., agreed to be given to the town, shall be lent till the first lease of the Granges shall be ended, and repaid within a year after the expiration of the lease.) And this money not to be put to any other use then only for the payinge of the townes debte. And whosoeuer dothe refuze to paye the taxacion or some of money ymposed upon him to be commytted to warde and there to remayne untill he do paye the same. And itt ys further ordered that the severall names of all the said lenders to bee recorded in the Towne Book. (The names of the three Eights and Sixteens follow.)

CCCCXXI. *Examinations before the Justices.*

Hall Papers III, No. 32. Case of fornication, concerning two of Henry Hastings' servants.

Ibid. No. 34. [Feb. 12, 1601.] J. Grasbruk examined says he bought the cloak and table napkin of a man "his apparrell a doblet of dunnyshe fustyan, a grey frees jerkyn, blue neytherstocks, his breeches color like frenche greene and a blewish cloke and a blacke hatt."

Ibid. No. 37. [Feb. 21.] Catheryn Jervys (suspected of cutting a purse) asked what business she had in the women's market "saythe she was agate to buy a pennyworthe of salte."

Ibid. Nos. 41—47. Letters concerning counterfeit coiners, in Coventry and Leicester.

Ibid. No. 44. [March 15, 1601.] A charge of stealing lead from a parish church.

CCCCXXII. *Letters between the Earl and the Mayor.*

Hall Papers III, No. 58. [Ap. 16, 1601.] (The Earl to the Mayor.) Mr Maiore, whereas I am gyven to vnderstand of some injuries offerd in your towne of Leicester to Mistris Catlyn<sup>1</sup>, her Maiesties tenaunte of the Shambles and draperye there, by sufferinge drapers to sett vp staules and standings in your faires and markitts, whereby her Maiesties house erected for y<sup>at</sup> purpose (beinge vn-furnyshed) will soone be ruinated and the tenaunte inhabled for want of reformacone of theise wrongs done vnto her since the deathe of her husbond to paye the Queene her rent: This seemeth to me to be a matter which you should not suffer, the reformacone whereof tendinge so muche to the good of yourselves, in regard you have gotten theis thinges on fee farme, for the more the house is frequented the more it tends to the good of the Queene and yourselves when your tyme cometh. I have bene intreated to wrighte vnto you, beinge willinge to aide her herein, to desire you to fullfill the promises made by some of your prediccors in this case which they have not performed, that suche as offer wronge by absenting themselves from the draperye maye by you be compelled to repaire to the place for that vse builte, whereby the house may be mayntayned, the rent to the Queene paide, and the tenaunte by your good reformacone, which I doubte not of, cased of further trooble. And so assueringe myself y<sup>at</sup> you will not be vnmyndfull herein, I comitt you to the proteccione of thalmyghtie. Donington Parke, this xvi<sup>th</sup> of Aprill 1601.

Your lovinge frende

George Huntingdon.

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<sup>1</sup> See p. 394.

Hall Papers III, No. 65<sup>1</sup>. [June 14, 1601.] (The Mayor to the Earl.) Right honorable, our humble duties remembered, maye it please your good lordshippe to be advertysed that yesterdaye abowte fyve of the clocke in thafternoone there was a greate broyle made in our towne betweene Mr Skeffington, and one Thomas Burrowes, of Burrough, as wee are informed, with manye partakers on boathe sydes, as this bearer, Henry Benyngton, can informe your honour more at lardge. Vpon the which broyle we cawsed proclamacion to be made in her Maiesties name, for the keepinge of the peace, and after the proclamacion made the said Burrowes was founde so vnwrelye, and vnderstandinge [him] to be one of the principall parties, we comytted hym to her Maiesties gaole of our towne, where he still remayneth; And after the heat qualyfyed<sup>2</sup>, caused the said Burrowes to come before vs, who dyd then mightily complayne ageynst the said Mr Skeffington of greate menasinge, and wee dowbt that there ys greate mischeefe lickly to fawle owte, vpon this browle, vnles your honour take order therein, with those whom wee can reache beinge forthe of our libertye. Thus leavinge the rest of the wholl circumstance to this bearer, who can truly informe the wholl proseadinge therein to your honour, wee humbly take our leaves: Leicester, this Sondaie mornyng the xiiii<sup>th</sup> of June 1601.

Your honours humbly to commande

Robert Gyllott, Mayor.

Hall Papers III, No. 64. [June 14, 1601.] (The Earl to the Mayor.) Mr Maior, I have received your lettre this xiiij<sup>th</sup> of June and I am sory to fynde, y<sup>at</sup> either broyle or outrage should be comytted in your towne, to the disturbaunce or hurte of her Maiesties subjectes. And where you write I should take informacion more at large of this bearer (who I knowe will reporte nothinge but truth vnto me), yet let me intreate you, to examyne the cawse more largelier, that I may be from yourselfe informed of this outrageous matter, and what persons were present at it, because I would avoyde the dangers you stande in feare of maye proceede hereafter. There are Justices of Peace, dwellinge in your towne and neare your towne, which methinkes you should have acquaynted with this account, and I thinke would have ioyned with you to have suppressed this outrage. I knowe you maye easilie come to be rightelie informed, and then I praye you let me be by you rightely informed, and you shall finde me I will carefullie regard the execucion of my dutie to

<sup>1</sup> See Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 313.

<sup>2</sup> mollified.

her Maiestie, the preservacion of her peace, and suppresses such as are the cawyers of the outrage. In the meane tyme witholde the custodie of those yow have alreadie commytted vnto your gaole. So commendinge my selfe vnto yow, I commytt you to Godes moste mercyfull protection: Donington Parke, the xiiii<sup>th</sup> June 1601.

Your lovinge frend

George Huntingdon.

Hall Papers III, No. 82. [July 9, 1601.] (The Earl to the Mayor.) Mr Maior, I have received informacion agaynst Richard Yates and one Raynescrofte (that have bene great distroyers and staylers of her Maiesties deare within Leicester forrest) who latelie being therewith taken have bene therevpon examined; which examinacion althoughe but simple, yet ther former trespasses joyned therewith is sufficient to procure ther punishment further then I will inflicte vpon them. Yet notwithstanding I praye yow presentlie to cause them to be apprehended and committed to your towne gaole, ther to remayne till order be further taken for them, either by my self or suche as have authoritie to deale for ther enlargement. And so with my hartie commendacions bid you farewell: From Donington Parke this ix<sup>th</sup> of Julye 1601.

Your lovinge frende

George Huntingdon.

Hall Papers III, No. 84. [July 15, 1601.] (The Mayor to the Earl.) My humble dutie vnto your good lordshippe remembred: vnderstandinge by your late lettre you have hard we have helde a sessions abowte the ryott lately commytted in our towne, whereof your lordshippe wold have bene advertised before our proceedings, maye it please your good lordshippe, the truthe is, I did not thincke theire wolde have beene anye suche cause before Mondaye the vi<sup>th</sup> of Julye last, att which tyme Mr Baron Savile (beinge att my howsse) advised me to make inquirye thereof within the moneth (which was then to be ended on Saturdaye next after) beinge the xi<sup>th</sup> daye of Julye last past, or els I did forfytt 100*l.*, whose advise I did followe, and sent presentlie therevpon to Mr Recorder to that effecte, who (not knowinge thereof before) did appoynt the said sessions to be holden (for the same enquirye) vpon Thursday the ix<sup>th</sup> of the said Julye, which was performed accordingly, accordinge to the statute<sup>1</sup>; att which sessions was Mr Skeffington and sixe of his servantes indited, and Tho. Burrowes and three of his frendes indited. And

<sup>1</sup> 3-4 Ed. VI. c. 5.



therevpon wee have made certifycate to the Queenes Maiestie and her Councell accordinge to the said statute. And so in that respecte we truste wee have discharged our duties: Hopinge your honour will not be offended in that behalf, and the rather because wee were bound by statute so to doe, vpon payne of a hundreth powndes: And whereas your honour hathe appoynted me to send our trayned soldyars to Ashebye vpon Wednesdaye the xxii<sup>th</sup> of this present monethe, I and my bretherne (in respecte of the greate charge that will thereby insue to our poore towne, whereof we have smale neede) wolde be humble suters to your honour, that it wold please you to lett them bee trayned some other tyme att Leycester before the right worshipfull Sir Edward Hastings knight, or els whom it shall please you, wherein wee shall acknowledge ourselves daylye bounden vnto your honour. And thus beinge bold and tedyous vnto your lordship, I humbly take my leave. Leycester this xv<sup>th</sup> of Julye 1601.

Youre honors moste humble

Robertt Gyllott, Maior.

CCCCXXIII. *Letters between the Mayor and the Recorder.*

Hall Papers III, No. 73. [July 6, 1601.] (The Mayor to the Recorder.) Mr Recorder, so it is, that my worshipfull good frend, Mr Baron Savill (who hath him commended vnto you) dynynge this daie at my howsse, and beinge informed by Mr George Belgrave of the owterage & fraye which was in our towne vpon Sayturdaye was iii weekes at night<sup>1</sup>, which Mr Belgrave avouched to Mr Baron<sup>2</sup> & myself to be a most notorious riott, & within the monethe to bee inquired of accordinge to the statute, and that Mr Belgrave himself wold give in evidence to that effect: Wherevpon I was privately advized by my said good frende to enquire within the monethe, to avoyde the penaltye of the lawe, & forthwithe to crave your further advice & assistance therein. And further for as muche as the cawse ys of waight, & hathe beene reported vnto my lordes the Judges, I therefore desire it maye bee duly & carefully proceded in, with due expedicion accordinge to the lawe: Theise are therefore, to intreate your paynes to cume to Leicester to sitt with me & oure Justices vpon the said inquirye, vpon Thursdaye or Frydaye next, or sooner (if possiblye you can), whereof I praye you certifye me certainlye, that a precept maye be made oute to the Bayllye accor-

<sup>1</sup> See p. 427.

<sup>2</sup> Savile.

dinglye. I praye you not to fayle for that somme question ys made, that it can not be done withoute you. Thus in haste, intreatinge youre answere by this bearer, (with my hartye commendacions) I commytt you to thalmightye.

From Leycester this vi<sup>th</sup> of Julie 1601.

Your lovinge frende

Robert Gyllott, Maior.

Postscript.

Mr Baron Saville hathe informed me the neclecte of this service might ympeache our liberties.

(On the same paper, the Recorder to the Mayor.) Mr Maior, after my hartiest commendacions, touching your riott above written, I never hard any woord thereof and therefore there was some want in that I was not doon<sup>1</sup> to vnderstand the same. But nowe I here of it, I will not faile, God willinge, to be withe youe vpon Thursdaie next. And intreate Mr Bellgrave to be theire, to geve in evidence for the Queene. I woulde be there rather todaie then tomorrowe, but that I knowe Mr Bailie cannot gett there, that should, to appere<sup>2</sup> so spedilie. Suche is allwaies their neglecte, in her Maiesties service in suche cases. And so I commend youe to the keepinge of Allmightie. This Tuesdaie the vii<sup>th</sup> of Julie.

Your loving frend to vse

Ri. Parkyns.

Hall Papers III, No. 95. [Aug. 17, 1601.] (The Mayor to the Recorder.) <sup>3</sup>—Sir Edward Hastings withine shoinge me the Councells [letter to] the Justices of Peace & treasourers of the county of Leycester & town of Leycester, in the behalf of one Thomas Yates<sup>4</sup>, a maymed souldier, to take order for a competent pencyon for hym, accordinge to the statute<sup>5</sup>, or ells to certifieoure answere to the contrarie. And for that he was borne with vs, they Justices of the countie wold charge the towne with his yerely pencyon by force of a provizoe conteyned in the latter ende of the said statute, & wee are to geve the Justices of the countye answere on Wednesdaye mornynge next, what wee will doe herein. This matter hathe bene heretofore in question between vs and the Justices of the countie, and notwithstanding the same provisoe, in regardeoure smalle number of

<sup>1</sup> doon=caused.

<sup>3</sup> The opening is torn.

<sup>5</sup> 43 Eliz. c. 3.

<sup>2</sup> MS. app and a blank space.

<sup>4</sup> See p. 397.

parishes will not be any way answerable to the proportion of the pensions allowed to the maymed soldiers which are to be chargeable vpon vs, yf the lawe shold be so taken as vpon the lettre of the provisoe the Justices of the countie wold inforce yt, [wee] dyd [not] then withstand yt vnto Mr Henrie Beamount and Mr Belgrave who said the wold not yeeld [till] the had the Judges opinion, who yt seemeth were for vs; for since that tyme we have made choice of a head constable who hath payed as well our arrerages as also our meane rates since, accordinge to the number of our parishes (viz. iii wholle parishes and ii halfe parishes) to the treasurers for the countie and have their acquittances for yt. Nowe therefore I & the Justices of our towne do desire your worship to have due consideracion of the said statute, together with the statute made in the last parliament ca. 21, & to advertyce vs by your lettres by this bearer howe farr wee are charged by the same statutes, and what answere wee shall give vnto the sayd Justices in that behalf; the copie of the Councells lettres I have sent you herein closed, the which I praye you returne backe ageyne by this bearer; & if (by the said statute) wee be not charged, as I hope we be not, with maymed soldyars and marryners otherwise then as contributors accordinge to the number of our parishes, then I praye you give vs direction howe to answeere the lordes of her Maiesties Privy Councell therein: for that the Justices of the county (who as wee perceave specially depend in this account vpon Mr Tho. Beamontes direction) will impose that charge vpon our towne, yf they by any wayes maye<sup>1</sup>. Further maye it please you, William Okes was lately arrested by a towne *capias* at the suyte of Mr Rowes, in pley<sup>2</sup> of debt, & did appeyre to the accompte dependinge in our courte this daye, where he hathe shewed a lettre of passe<sup>3</sup> from the right honorable the Deputye of Ireland for his safe comynge into England & retorne backe ageyne, & therefore saythe he ought not to be arrested or otherwise molested, which his lettre of passe I have also herein sent you, prayinge you to consyder thereof & to returne itt to me backe ageyne by this bearer, with your direction whether he be herevpon to be dismissed or deteyned. Mr Cotton (as *amicus curie*) willethe me to be advised thereof, for that the denyall thereof maye prove a contempt, but Mr Stanford & Mr Tamworthe (whoe are of Mr Rowes councell) are not of that opynyon, wherevpon the matter is stayde, to be advysed by you.

<sup>1</sup> In Hall Papers III, No. 236 [May 30, 1602], is the Privy Council's letter to the Mayor on Yates' case, asking for the matter to be discussed further with the Justices.

<sup>2</sup> pley=plea.

<sup>3</sup> Corr. from *pasporte*.

And thus with my hartie commendacions I commend you to thallmightye. Leicester this xvii<sup>th</sup> of August, 1601.

Your lovinge frend

Robert Gyllott, Maior<sup>1</sup>.

Hall Papers III, No. 96. [Aug. 18, 1601.] (The Recorder to the Mayor.) Mr Maior, after my hartiest commendacions : touchinge that ye write to Mr Okes his passporte, as to myne vnderstandinge, by extremtyie of lawe (wherevnto we are all bounde by our oathe to God, and dutie to our moste gracious Soveraigne) the same is not allowable. The reasons that perswade me therevnto, arre by our bookes, who saie vnto vs, that proteccions arre by the statute (13 R. 2. ca. 16. et vide auxi ca. 12) wherin are three sortes viz. in a viage ryall to gooe, or in other busynes of the realme, as to go in an embassie to a forren potentatie, sent by her Maiestie, or to abide for the kepinge of any forte or victualyng thereof. And these thre arre deryved from the two sortes of proteccions, called or termed proteccions *Quia moratur, Et quia profecturus*. And also it is not allowable (if it be vnder the Privie Sealle) but of necessitie it must be vnder the Greate Seall. Nor a proteccion *Quia profecturus* is not allowable, but where the partie goethe in a viage roiall, or for greate busynes of the realme. And a viage roiall shalbe taken to be, where the kinge goethe with his armye in person, or that he maketh a generall of an armye to invade Fraunce, or other straunge enemy out of his owne domynions, nor the same can indure above a yere or a lesse tyme, which must be certeyne, for the same proteccion maie not be allowed for a jorney or armye sent within the kinges domynions. And the booke is expresselie, that a proteccion in a viage roiall into Ireland shall not be allowed, for that the same kingdome of Ireland is within the iurisdiccion of the kingdom of England. And a prisoner in execucion vppon a condempnacion could not be licensed by the Quene with a keeper to go vnto Barwicke for defence thereof, although he were a necessarie man therefore (*quod vide* Dier<sup>2</sup>). And althoughe Irreland be subiecte to England, yet it is a kingdome of itself, and a pere or noble man of that realme for rebellion or treason comyttedd there shalbe tried by his peeres in Ireland and not in England, which proves (in my conceite) that allthoughe my lord deputie be a greate man, and as I maie terme him a vice pere, yet in England (it semethe to me)

<sup>1</sup> There is a partly illegible postscript, a message concerning the Recorder's son.

<sup>2</sup> Perhaps in Dyer's unindexed abridgement.

his passe porte is not of greter force then the Queenes proteccion ys in England, as I have shewed youe before, so as my poore opynion apperethe to youe herein. And as touchinge your desire to knowe my opynion touching your maymed sowdier, I thinke it best youe answere the Justices, that youe arre not yet resolved; for that your Recorder is redde[n] from home; so as [for] the shortnes of the tyme [youe] could not satisfie yourselves withe a resolved answere to them presentlie. And so kepe yourself from them close, that they vnderstand not your intent what to do therein. And in the meane tyme (seinge your lettre is from the bodie of the Councell, which in all dewtie youe arre to answere) youe arre to drawe a lettre to their lordshippes, with all circumstaunces, to satisfie their lordshippes with the resons whie youe take yourselves to be discharged from the said charge, and not in any wise make the said Justices privie to your answeres, nor what you meane to do therein. For to make them privie weere to arme your adversaries in this cawse with matter to replie afreshe against youe to your disadvauntage. And rather because it apperethe to me by your lettre there is oone<sup>1</sup>, that of humor followethe, withe all he maie, to your preiudice, therefore if youe be of my mynde, lett Mr Dethick (who is secrete) drawe (roughlie) a lettre withe all he can allege to my said lordes, in your favor. And if youe send him over to me therwith I shall pervse and penne in the best sorte I can, to the end youe maye not be crossed with these humors, which I would willinglie have nowe doon, but the tyme was too shorte, and I dreven therebie to knowe firste your myndes and resolucion touchinge the same. And if youe shewe this my lettre to any, folde the same in the myddes that they maie not vnderstand nor perceave this latter parte. For the firste parte is matter of lawe, which parte I care not who shall see. Thus with my whoole affeccion, and whoole abilitie, I desire your good, and that my counsell maie take no worse interpretacion then is by me singlelie and sincerlie intended, and shall be performed, with all I maie, to effecte all to your good. This 18th of Auguste.

Your assured to vse and loving frend

Ri. Parkyns.

This firste parte of this lettre youe maie shewe Mr Rowe<sup>2</sup> for his owne cause or his counsell etc.

<sup>1</sup> Probably Sir John Gray, see above p. 414.

<sup>2</sup> Or Rowes, see p. 431.

CCCCXXIV. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1600—1.] *Receipts ... Rents ... Other receipts ...* of Geo. Sumerfield...tenaunte...of one of the closes parcell of the Frythe neire the Forrest of Leicester belonging to that parte of the Graunges nowe in thoccupacion of the Maior and burgesses...for and towards the charges of the...borough...of suit in lawe...£5...of the firste eighte of the xxiiij aldermen being taxed towards the payment of Mr Ellcockes £100...£3 a peece...of the seconde eighte...£2. 16s. 8d. apeece...of the thirde eighte...£1. 13s. 4d. apeece...first 16 of the companie of XLVIII...£1. 6s. 8d. a peece...seconde 16...£1 apeece...thirde 16...13s. 4d....commoners...£18. 16s. 8d....bakers...weyvers...taylors...butchers...(ordinalls)...countrie artisantes towards the payement of the fifte and sixte fiftenees and tenths...defawltes at common hawles...15s. 6d....forfits of them that cam in their clokes...3s....parcell of the Holie Bones<sup>1</sup> (let)...sufferinge gammyng in his howsse...10s....for gammynge...3s. 4d.

*Other receipts.* Of weyves etc....a carpitt clothe of Venis beinge fellons goods 3s....£7. 14s. 0d.

*Total...*£397. 18s. 7<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d.

*Giftes...*messenger that broughte...proclamacions prohibitinge the use and carriage of dagges<sup>2</sup>, birdinge peecees, and other gunnes contrary to the lawe...thearle Huntingdons playars 26s. 8d....sacke to Mr Boethe the Recorder of Newarke super Trent and to Mr Stanforde beinge retayned of councell with the towne about our newe liberties viz. the Newarke, against Mr H. Beomont.

*Charges in suits of lawe...*£14. 12s. 8d.

*Charges of soldyars...*£9. 12s.

*Repracions...*pavinge of the spittle howsse bridge...

*Fees, wages etc.*

*Total...*£388. 13s. 9<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d.

To the towne...£9. 4s. 10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d.

Allso theire is yett remeyninge unpaid for Mr Will. Heyrick's freedom one dozen of silver spoones...

(Note of the salt and the goods in the Recorder's chamber<sup>3</sup>)

<sup>1</sup> The piece of land so called.

<sup>2</sup> A kind of heavy pistol.

<sup>3</sup> As annually recorded.

CCCCXXV. *Election of Burgesses of Parliament*<sup>1</sup>.

Hall Papers III, No. 103. [Sept. 22, 1601.] (The Mayor to the Earl.) (Opening obliterated by damp.) Wee are bounden to honor your lordshipp in that we maye. Itt is bruted abrode a parliament [will be held] and alreadye there are complotters whoe designe before hand the election of our [burgesses for] the same. And we havinge consyderacion of your lordshipp woulde willinglye endeavor to please youe therein. But the contrarietie of faccyous heades and myndes and voyces [hinder] our good wills herein. Therefore we thought good to signifye to your lordshipp, the [more] for that we woulde your lordshipp sholde like our choyce, or otherwise please your selfe, yf we can help youe too, wee have in mynde to choose a gentleman, assured vnto vs, Mr George Parkyns the Queens man, whom it pleased her Maiestie latelye to make Captayne of the Castell of <sup>2</sup>. The other our choise of like assurance Mr Will. Heyricke. And further hereof we leave to the relacion of this bearer. Thus humblye take our leave, we commende your lordshipp to thallmightie, whoe send all that is good for you with <sup>2</sup> of muche honor. Leicester this xxii<sup>th</sup> of September 1601.

Your lordships humble to commaunde

Robert Gillott maior

Will. Rowes.

Hall Papers III, No. 115. [Sep. 30, 1601.] The Earl to the Mayor, urging the choice of Mr Bromley and Mr Heyricke. As Belgrave still seeks to be chosen, he hopes that all from the best to the meanest, knowing the writer's dislike, will oppose him. He asks for the names of those who yield to Belgrave's proud and saucy enterprise, and threatens them. (In full in Thompson's *Leicester*, pp. 316—7.)

Hall Papers III, No. 107. [Oct. 13, 1601.] (The Mayor to the Earl.) (Opening obliterated.) Heyrycke hathe bene with your lordshipp to have your honors consent to [the election] of our burgesses. And for so muche as at my late beinge with your honor I then perceyved your good likeing of him therevnto, maye itt therefore please your lordshipp to vowchsafe your honors lettre to me and my bretherne to that effecte, which then I dowbt not but that it will bee performed accordingelye, allthoughe wee have manye wilfull vnrewlye

<sup>1</sup> The Earl's candidates were Heyrick and Bromley. Heyrick and Belgrave were elected. The Earl exhibited an information against Belgrave in the Star Chamber which led to a prolonged discussion on privilege in the House of Commons. There is a full report in Thompson's *Leicester*, pp. 319—323.

<sup>2</sup> Illegible.

people to deale therein withall. And for any thinge that shalbee to your honors dislyk, I will be as carefull to avoyde as I maye. And so in all dewtye, humbly takinge my leave, I comende your honor to the proteccion of thallmighty. Leycester this xiiii<sup>th</sup> of October, 1601.

Your honors humble to commande

Will. Rowes, maior.

Hall Papers III, No. 111. [Oct. 21, 1601.] (The Mayor to the Earl.) Right honorable, oure humble dewties remembred etc. May yt please your good lordship to be certified that vpon Tuesday morninge laste, beinge assembled for the choice of our burgesses, Mr George Belgrave presented himselfe amongst vs in a blewe coate with a bull head<sup>1</sup>, affirminge and protestinge he was your lordships servant, and that Sir Henrie Harrington, verye late the night before, had obteyned that favour of your honor in his behalfe, and muche bemoned his former vndewtfull cariage towardses your lordship with a remorsive remembrance of many most honorable favors receaved from your lordship and your house towardses his auncestors, him and his. And recommendinge his former suite to be one of oure burgesses, beinge demanded whether he had any letter from your lordship, answered, that this (poyntinge at his coate and cognizance) he hoped was a sufficient testimonie of your lordships favour towardses him and of his submission towardses your honor and further that it was so late before Sir Henrie cold procure your lordships said favor as that you cold not well write, and for the trueth of the premisses he offered his corporall oathe; wherevpon wee, thinkinge all this to be true, made choice of him with Mr Will. Herricke to be our burgesses. And nowe this eveninge wee are credibly certified, that your lordship hath geven him no suche entertaynement. And thus by his said lewde and most dishonest dealinge beinge much abused, we thought it our dewties forthewith to signifie the same vnto your lordship, humbly cravage your lordships most honorable favor for some reformation for this vile practize. And thus with remembrance of oure dewties wee humbly take our leaves. From Leicester this xxi<sup>th</sup> of October, 1601.

Your honors moste humble to command.

Hall Papers III, No. 118. [Oct. 26, 1601.] The Earl to the Mayor, expressing satisfaction that Belgrave's treachery was the sole occasion of his election, and threatening a person unnamed as the cause of the mischief. (In full in Thompson's *Leicester*, pp. 318—9<sup>2</sup>.)

<sup>1</sup> The Earl's livery.

<sup>2</sup> See further below.



CCCCXXVI. *The Earl on Adcock's case.*

Hall Papers III, No. 119. [Oct. 31, 1601.] (The Mayor to the Earl.) Right honorable, my humble dutye remembred, theise are to signifye vnto your lordship that this daye Mr Skeffington hathe beene with me to bayle his man Adcocke, and hathe offred me his owne bonde and further to enter into bond in 500 poundes to save me harmels<sup>1</sup>; notwithstandinge I have denyed him; wherevpon in great anger he departed from me sayinge he wolde bayle hym, or it shoulde coste hym a thousand poundes, and will also have his accion of falce ymprisonment ageynst me, for the refuzall thereof, vnles I doe charge hym with suche matter, as he is not to be bayled for, and notwithstandinge I doe still deteyne him vpon your lordships lettre onely. And therefore nowe good my lord, I humbly desire your honors further direction and warrant herein for my indempnitie. And thus expectinge your lordships pleasure herein by this bearer, I humblye take my leave. Leicester this last of October 1601.

Your honors humble to command

Will. Rowes, maior.

Hall Papers III, No. 120. [Oct. 31, 1601.] (The Earl to the Mayor.) Mr Maior, I do thanke you for sendinge me that letter and for the withholdinge of Adcocke from beinge bayled and I praye you still contynue in your safe custodie, for I have greater matters to laye to him, then yet is fit for me to acquaynt anye bodye withall, and am sorye that Mr Skeffington should enter hymself into this accione for so lewde a person; it should greatly have gladded me, to have had hym have followed the wise and discreete dealinge of his father, y<sup>at</sup> he myght the sooner have possessed his place which he in credit held in the countrye. And can be but sorrye y<sup>at</sup> it is not soe; but for y<sup>e</sup> person in goale I praye you let hym be well and narrowly looked vnto for feare of escapeinge; and for the threatres gyven you as appeares by your letter I will stand betwixe you and your harmes in this accione, and if he spends fyve hundred poundes as he saithe he will, to bayle hym, assure yourself I will delyver hym to the Counsell before he be sett at lybertie. And whereas he threatneth you with an accione of false imprisonment laye it vpon me y<sup>at</sup> it is my acte and not yours, and as it is, so I will defend you in it. And so commendinge myself vnto you I commytt you to the Lordes protection. Doningtone todaye this laste of October 1601

Your loveinge frend

George Huntingdon.

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<sup>1</sup> harmels = harmless.

Hall Papers III, No. 121. [Nov. 1, 1601.] (The Mayor to W. Skeffington.) Sir, theis are accordinge to my promyse to signifie vnto you, that sithence your beinge with me yesterdaye, I have eftsones receyved lettres from my Lorde Lieftenaunte advertysinge me thereby, that I shall still detayne Adcocke, withoute bayle, and further that as I am advised, for other cawses, he ys not bayleable by lawe. And thus, hopinge this will satisfye you, with my hartye commendacions, I take my leave. Leicester this first daye of November 1601.

Your lovinge frende  
Will. Rowes, Maior<sup>1</sup>.

CCCCXXVII. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 208. [Sep. 29, 1601.] *The Armorer.* Firste ytt ys agreed that Edmund Hunt the armorer shall have the dressinge of the towne armour, and for the same shall have xxxs. per annum, and shall have leyther fownde by the towne, for the same.

(p. 214.) [Oct. 20, 1601.] *Leyther Buckyttes.* Also itt is nowe agreed that euery one of the Aldermen of this Burroughe and their successors shall presentlie after this meetinge provide and att their owne charges keepe in his howsse twoe leyther buckittes, and the XLVIII<sup>th</sup> in like sorte one apeece. And the able Commoners one apeece, and euery Alderman to looke to his warde, for performance thereof.

(p. 215.) [Nov. 20, 1601.] *Pavinge.* Item it is agreed that the oner or landlorde of any tenementes within this Buroughe of Leicester, or his tenant, shall and do, on this side the Feast of Easter repayre and sufficientlie amend the pamentes agenst the same, vppon payne of vis. viii*d.* for euerye defaulte.

*Straungers.* Item it is further agreed that euerye landlorde, that taketh anye straunger to bee his tenaunt, to enter into bonde to the Corporacion, that they shall not bee chargeable to the towne, or else to discharge them, vpon payne of xls. And suche as are allredye come in, for a yeare paste, to bee presentlie removed and everie Alderman to serche his warde everie fortnytt for straungers.

<sup>1</sup> In Hall Papers III, No. 169 [Nov. 11, 1601], is a letter from Chief Justice Anderson ordering that Adcock should not be bailed. Ibid. No. 168 [March 15, 1602] the Mayor makes known to the Earl that Adcock has escaped, and asks that the gaoler should be pardoned.

*Att euerye Gate, a leyther<sup>1</sup> and hooke.* Item it is further agreed that att euerye of the Common Gates, theire shalbee a leyther<sup>1</sup>, and a hooke remeynyng, for dawnger of fier, and the same to bee made readye by the Chamberlyns att the townes charges before Candlemas next. And that the leyther buckett bee provided for, accordinge to the order sett downe, att the last Common Hall.

*Cowe pasture.* Item itt is nowe agreed that the Cowe Pasture (for the betteringe thereof, and makinge the same more sownder for cattell) shalbee lett (etc.) for xls. And the same to bee bestoed and ymployed in and abowte the repayringe of the common grownde in the Sowthe Gate and elsewhere [as] is needefull.

*Ale howses.* Item it is also agreed that euerye Alderman in his warde, doe cause serche to bee made in the Alehowses, for tiplinge in the sermonde tymes and service tymes. And the offenders to present before the Mayor for the tyme beinge.

*Lyster.* Item as towchinge Mr Lyster for our Closes. It is nowe agreed to referr the compozicion with him to Mr Mayor, for money, butt not to yelde him either of the Closes. And vpon suche compozicion for money, then hee to procure an order in the Duchie Courte for the warrantie of them hereafter.

[Nov. 21, 1601.] <sup>2</sup> *Waites.* An order for our waites, agreed vpon xxi die Novembris supradicto by themselves.

This is to lett your worshippe vnderstand, that I am willinge to fulfill all your requestes and myndes, and to putt vpp all iniuries afore this on tyme more, hopinge itt shalbee the last in this sorte, accordinge to his owne speeche, viz. That his sonne shall pley the base one seisen<sup>3</sup>, and myne an other, and his father his olde parte the treable, and so to bee iuste fyve, oure firste stinte, and the first boye to pley one quarter his, and the next myne as longe, with this excepcion. Looke who<sup>4</sup> is wantinge withoute reasonable cause att anye tyme, and will not give his (p. 216) attendance havinge sufficient notice, shall lose his share. And so if I might intreate those that are heare in presence to be witnes to this agreement.

Thomas Poyner, George Ridgley, waytes.

*Waites.* The xxii<sup>th</sup> daye of November supradict', an order by Mr Maior. Iff George Ridgley subscribe likewise to this agreement, then I will they contynewe theire places for our waites, and this

<sup>1</sup> ?leather bucket.

<sup>2</sup> And Hall Papers III, No. 166. Cf. Kelly, *Notices*, p. 138.

<sup>3</sup> season.

<sup>4</sup> looke who = whoever.

agreement bee entred as an order of the last Common Hall. Yff not, that then they presentlye yelde vppe their collors to my deputie.

per Will<sup>m</sup> Rowes Maiorem.

CCCCXXVIII. *A lawyer's advice to the borough*<sup>1</sup>.

Hall Papers III, No. 162. [Dec. 7, 1601.] (James Whitelocke to John Clark.) John Clerk, bycaus my leasure will not serve to dilate more then I must necessarily and I know I may be boldest to be irregular in my writing with you, I have thought good to direct my letters to you out of which you may enform Mr Maier and his bretheren that which shold concern them. I have had long discourse withe Mr Brogrove<sup>2</sup>, who being a judge in that court cannot give a resolution of successe in our cause, but by his opinion the surmise of your decay which tendethe to the injury of the feefarm oughte properly to be examined therein, and that the complaynt will best be exhibitid in the name of the Maior and community<sup>3</sup>, who may bothe desire the meanet<sup>4</sup> of that court for the upholding of the publike estate mutche decayed by the decreasing of the inhabitants, which growethe through the equality of priviledges to yourselves and foreners, and unequality in taxes and burdens, besides the priviledges themselves being sutche as ar now enjoyed by most of the borowghes and cities in England other by prescription or the princes grants: and herupon you may demand a decree of that court against those that impeache them, upon which decree you may ever after have powers of contempt if they demur in your charter for that poynt, you may have a fair and publike triall of the law and not be cast out of the court without defence, and that will be very convenient for you to bring it to a triall, for, by that, you shall either have it confirmed to yow or be thoroughly instructed of the defects and so proceed more directly to procure a letter. Upon those reasones that we are to pretend for our releef in this case was the statute of 1 and 2 P. and M. ca. 7 made, out of the preamble of which statute I mean to derive matter for our purpose...the opinion commonly received that they may at their liberty buy and sell in any other market town bycaus they dwell in on<sup>5</sup>, is quite mistaken, for it quite overthwarteth the

<sup>1</sup> The letter is very diffuse, and has here been curtailed.

<sup>2</sup> Attorney General of the Duchy.

<sup>3</sup> MS. *com.*

<sup>4</sup> minute.

<sup>5</sup> on = one.

purpose of the statute which is that those of other townes sholde not gather the wealthe of townes, where they were not enhabitants, by retayling in them...bothe myself and my ancients<sup>1</sup> do think that you may punishe them by that statute...

I had the perusal of your petition to the Queen and did extracte of it the note of those things which were denyed yow.

1. The first was the erection of your towne to a county.

2. The second was the repealing of all markets within 8 miles of you, whiche was a very unfit demand, for if they be hurtfull unto you and weare granted since yeares<sup>2</sup> you may appeal them by law; if they are ancienter then yeares<sup>2</sup> then [you] sholde annoy them in repealing them, so for that second matter, the common law will releev you as your case standeth and therefore you had no need to renew that request.

3. The third matter denyed you was the raysing of a toll on those that passed besides your towne; that is somewhat an unusual matter and nevertheless may be helped by you other as by stopping of pastures in the enclosing, if they be made thoroughe youre common feilde.

4. The last matter not granted yow was the presenting of the almes people by the Maior to the Hospitall, which you may dispose of in that sort if you be carefull to keep one of your people in the place of minister.

(Asks for further information.)

#### CCCCXXIX. *Minutes of Common Hall.*

Hall Book III, p. 216. [Dec. 16, 1601.] *A letter redde concerninge a person in Cornewall which gave iiili. to y<sup>e</sup> towne.* Imprimis att this present was a lettre redd, sent from one Hughe Attwell person of St Teive in Cornall, to Mr Maior concerninge the gifte of iiili., whiche he hathe given to the towne of Leicester for ever, to sett the poore on worke. The copie whereof ensuith.

*Mr Raphe Chettell.* Item whereas Mr Raphe Chettell, baker, one of the Aldermen of the towne of Leicester decessed, by his last will and testament did give and bequeithe vnto the Mayor and Burgesses of the towne of Leicester the somme of five powndes, to bee yeerely bestowed in coles for the vse of the poore in Leicester for ever: Itt is nowe therefore ordered and agreed that the said v*li.* shalbee soe employed from yeere to yeere for ever, and to non other vse.

<sup>1</sup> seniors.

<sup>2</sup> yeares = yours.

*The copie of the said person of Cornewalls lettre, for the said iiii. Inrolled in the Locke Book.* Jhesus. Leycester. I geve to the towne of Leicester three poundes of money for ever to keepe the poore a worke, the stocke for ever to remayne, the gayne the pores, to be disposed by the Magistrates of the towne, or suche as they shall thinke moeste fittest for the true disposicion thereof. Your frend and well willer Hughe Atwell person of St Teive in Cornall, in tymes paste person of Cawverley<sup>1</sup> in Devonshire.

I praye yow reterne some of your names with the scale of your towne, in testymonye of the receyvinge.

[Jan. 15, 1602.] (Note of payment to the Chamberlains.) The which somme was put owte to Tho. Clarkes wiefe, for a yere. This lettre remayneth on the file for this yere of Mr Rowes Mayor in the studdye<sup>2</sup>.

[Dec. 18, 1601.] (p. 217.) (Agreement to offer £60 to Lyster as a composition.)

#### CCCCXXX. *Papers on Borough Suits.*

Hall Papers III, No. 150. [Dec. 22, 1601.] <sup>3</sup>(Sir F. Hastings to the Mayor.) Master Mayor, I can challenge no kindnes from the towne of Leicester, being a stranger farre off in dwelling, but I dare boldly say that in my time I have shewed myselfe a kinde frende to Leicester and careful for Leicester, and if this be no lesse gratefully remembred, then I did lovingly performe it, I shal finde it by your cariage towards my servant Francis Archer<sup>4</sup>, for whom I desire nothing but that he may have his right from you without law, and that his wante of ability may not hinder him which it might nedes doe if you drive him to sute; and therefore all that I desire is, that if you wil not of your selves leave to him that law hath layed upon him, yet some gentlemen in the country may heare it and ende it without law. And so hoping to finde you willing to satisffy me in so reasonable a request. With my hearty commendacions I leave you to God. From London the 22 of December 1601.

Your loving frende

Francis Hastings.

Hall Book III, p. 217. [Jan. 2, 1602.] Memorandum that Mr Belgrave one of the Burgesses of the said parliament for the said Buroughe of Leicester refuzed to certifie the name of the said

<sup>1</sup> Catworth in Hall Papers III, No. 133.

<sup>3</sup> Letter headed "Immanuel."

<sup>2</sup> It is in Hall Papers III, No. 133.

<sup>4</sup> See p. 445.

collector<sup>1</sup>, wherevpon a lettre was sent to Mr Will<sup>m</sup> Heyricke the other Burges of the said parliament for the said Burrowe, and one other lettre to the Lorde Keeper of the said Mr Belgrave refusall to certify. So as therevppon the said Lorde Keeper did apoynt the said Mr Heyricke, to certifie the name of the said Libbyus, to be the collector for the said ii. xv<sup>ens</sup> and tenthes, and withall, appoynted proces to be sent downe to the Sheriffe of the Countie of Leicester to take bondes of the said Libbyus, for the payment of the said fifteenes, etc. Otherwise his Honor had nominated Mr Stanford thelder and Mr Robertt Heyricke, to bee Collectors for the same xv<sup>ens</sup> and tenthes.

Hall Papers III, No. 144<sup>b</sup>. [Undated.] (The Mayor to Mr Beaumont.) Sir, whereas there hath bene some difference between this corporacion of Leicester and yourself for jurisdiction within the Newark, which hath bene reserved to view of Councell on both sides, with this that there shold no alteracions be had vntill grave advise of those lerned in the lawe was first taken therein: Pleaseth you to vnderstand that nowe the taxacion of the subscdy for this burgh of Leicester with the new liberties annexed is presently to be dealt in, and there is alredy advise taken of verie good counsell extant vnder there handes, whereby it appereth that there is no doubt of the Newark to be comprehended within her Maiesties graunt and vnyted to this incorporacion; and although the taxacion of the residauntes within the said Newark tendeth to her Maiesties better service, yet I myself with the rest of my brothers have thought good before we enter into that service to acquaint you therewith, for y<sup>at</sup> you should not take offence y<sup>at</sup> it were done without your privitie.

This letter not sent to Mr Beaumonte.

Hall Papers III, No. 144<sup>2</sup>. [Jan. 4, 1602.] Fyrst att this Common Hawle it was agreed by the greater parte nowe assembled, not to gyve Master Lyster a hundred markes for compozycion for oure closes, vnles hee wyll secure vs for our tytle therein. But rather to answeere hym to the lawe, or att the counsell table. Nota, that all those that are totted thus (o) are of the lesser number, and those which are vntotted in that sorte are the greate number<sup>3</sup>.

Hall Papers III, No. 151. [Jan. 8, 1602.] To the right honorable Sir John Fortescue, Knight, Chancellor of her Maiesties Duchie of Lancaster. Humbly sheweth vnto your honor your supliant Randall

<sup>1</sup> Of subsidy.

<sup>2</sup> See also Hall Book III, p. 218.

<sup>3</sup> A list is given in the ms.

Mannynge of London, merchant, that whereas in the XL<sup>th</sup> yeare of her Maiesties raigne (Sir Robert Cecyll beinge then Chancellor of her Maiesties Duchie of Lancaster) there was a lease graunted vnto your supliant vnder the duchie seale of certayn toles and stallages of the fayres and markettes within the town of Leicester, as thinges concealed from her Maiestie (exceptinge the sheep pennes and buchers shambles, which are graunted in fee farme to the Maior and Burgesses of that towne) which lease beinge resisted and withstood by the said Maior and Burgesses, your supliant for his releife preferred a bill agaynst them in the Duchie Court, wherevnto they answered and alledged y<sup>at</sup> they and all others resortinge to the sayd towne were freed from payinge any such dueties by reason of a certayne Mannor called Wrangle which they pretend their predecessors gave to Henry Duke of Lancaster vpon y<sup>at</sup> condicion<sup>1</sup>, and that the freedome of toles hath bene ever kept since y<sup>at</sup> time, wherevpon the court decreed that it should be so contynued. Howbeit if it may please your honor it is sythence found amongst her Maiesties recordes, that before there was any Duke of Lancaster, the said toles did yeald revenue to the Crowne, and that the sayd Mannor of Wrangle came to the Duke by mariage with the daughter and heire of Henry Earle of Lincolne and that John Duke of Lancaster receaved for the sayd toles xxii*l*. per annum, and in the tyme of Henry IV and other kinges succeedinge him as also in her Maiesties tyme the like accountes are found of xi*l*. and odd money receaved, which are all contrary to the sayd pretended freedome and repugnant to the sayd decree made. And besides their takinge of the best thinges in fee farme to themselves and receavinge other tollage and stallage for wares and merchandize brought to their fayres and markettes, wherevnto they have no right as some of the Aldermen and Burgesses vpon their oathes have confessed, are evident proofes against them y<sup>at</sup> they intend not to have her Maiesties subiects freed, but rather by their pretences to entitle themselves to the sayd toles, to the defraudinge of her Maiestie, and disableinge of her farmor to pay her the rent for the same: In regard whereof and for the vpholdinge of her Maiesties right your supliant beinge still withstood and holden from the benifitt of his lease, most humbly besecheth your honor to write your favourable lettres in his behalfe to the sayd Maior and Burgesses, requiringe them to permitt your supliant in peacable mannor to enioy and take the sayd toles graunted vnto him by her Maiestie accordinge to his lease, or else to come vp and shew cause

<sup>1</sup> See II. pp. 113—30, 134—7, and Introd. to II. p. xxii sqq.



to your honor why they refuse so to doe, or otherwise to take such order therein for your supliants releife, as your honor shall thinke meete and agreable with equitie, and, as most bound, he will dayly pray for your honor's longe preservacion.

(This petition is enclosed by Richard Theckeston to Mr John Stanford, lawyer at Leicester, writing from the Wardrobe 8 Jan. 1602.)

Hall Book III, p. 218. [Jan. 13, 1602.] (Bond between the two Companies on behalf of the town and George Brook to submit Brook's claim for indemnification in Lyster's suit to arbitration.)

*Archer.* Also att this meetinge was a lettre openlie redd, sent from Sir Fraunces Hastings, Knight<sup>1</sup>, to Mr Mayor and his bretherne, in the behalfe of Frances Archer, towchinge the two yarde Lande in the Sowthe Feelde. Itt is nowe agreed that if the towne and Archer can not agree betwixt themselves for the same, and the same to be presentlie determyned, that then the Chamberlyns to enter therevppon, for the vse of the towne.

*Fyftenes.* Item at this Hall it was agreed by the greater parte (the Hall beinge devided) that the xv<sup>ens</sup> shalbee levied and taxed as it hathe beene used, viz. The xxiiii<sup>ti</sup> for a single fyteene vs. apeece, and the xlviii<sup>ti</sup> after that rate. And the Commoners to be taxed accordinge to theire habillities.

Hall Papers III, No. 149. [Jan. 19, 1602.] (The Mayor to the Attorney General.) Right worshipfull, whereas it pleased his Maiestie in the xli<sup>th</sup> yeare of her highnes raigne to graunt vnto vs dyvers liberties, for obtayninge whereof we acknowledge your worships favour our principall meanes, and for defence thereof doe wholly relye of your worships counsell and assistance, we humbly entreat your worship to call before you one Boswell who hath informed against vs in the Exchequer for buyinge of wolles, wherevnto we have pleaded her Maiesties letters patent, that he would leave to molest vs any further with unjust suites. Her Maiesties most gracious graunt is allreadie in parte impeached and generally opugned thorough the malice of our neighbour adversaries beinge many and of great countenance, we humbly request continuance of your worships favour, which we hould our best proteccion, and we the whole corporacion and towne of Leicester will remayne thankfull dutifull and observant of your worship to the vtermost of

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<sup>1</sup> See p. 442.

our abilities. And thus we humbly take our leaves. Leicester this xix<sup>th</sup> of Januarye 1601.

Your worships humbly at commaunde  
(the Mayor and others).

To the Right Worshipful Edward Coke Esquier H.M.'s Attorney Generall theis.

CCCCXXXI. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 218. [Jan. 22, 1602.] *Fyftenes.* Firste the Hall was devided abowte the taxacion of the firste xv<sup>ens</sup> and tenthes, and the greater parte are agreed, that it shall bee payde by the parishes, accordinge to mens habillities.

*Lyster.* Also as towchinge Listers suite for our Closes, itt is agreed by the greater parte nowe assembled that no compozicion shalbee made with the said Lyster for our Closes, but to answeere him to the lawe, for the same.

(p. 219.) *Oure Lawyers or Councellors.* Also it is nowe further agreed, that Mr John Stanford shalbee retayned of Councell for the towne abowte the suit of Master Listers, and all other the townes suites and cawses (if so hee will). And Master Pilkington and Mr Stephane Pecke to be reteyned Attorneys for the towne to followe all their suites and cawses. And they with and by the advise and consent of Mr Stanford to retayne suche other councell for the towne as they shall thinke good.

*Archerr.* Also the lettre before mencioned sent to Mr Mayor and his Breetherne by Sir Fraunces Hastings, Knight, on the behalfe of Frances Archerr, was nowe openlie readd (the said Archer beinge present) was debated vpon towchinge the ii yard lande, but nothinge therein doone nor agreed vpon.

*Archerr.* Item itt is nowe agreed that if Mr Mayor for the towne, and Frances Archer for himselfe, can not agree this daie abowte the title of the ii yarde lande, the said Archer maketh clame vnto, that then presentlye after, the towne shall make a lease thereof, to sume townes man for iii yerres, vpon a yerelie rent, and if no townes man will take itt, then to lett itt to some others, at the likinge of Mr Mayor and the Chamberlyns, for the moste profit for the towne, for that their ys nowe offered *vili.* per annum for itt.

[Jan. 27, 1602.] (Besides the Aldermen named, Mr Sacheverell our preacher and one of the 48 were present.)

*Archer.* Item it is agreed by Mr Maior for the towne, and the said Archer for himselfe, that Frances Archers seruantes shall plowe and dresse the lande to thuse of the towne vntill Maye Daye next, the towne fyndinge seede, provided that if the right shalbe by the arbitrators fownde in the towne, then they to give consideracion for Archers paynes, as the arbitrators shall sett downe. And if the arbytrators do fynde for Archer, then he to paye for the seede.

Hall Papers III, No. 153. [Jan. 14, 1602.] (Dr Chippingdale asks for a lease of the moiety of the Grange for his son. "He and I will be as of your Company and do good office for your public state as freely and willing as if sworn of the corporation.")

Hall Book III, p. 220<sup>1</sup>. (*Standards.*) (Letter from Sir T. Buckhurst and Sir J. Fortescue requiring the standards to be sent up for marking.)

(*Sale of lands.*) [Ap. 28, 1602.] (p. 222.) Authhoritie is geuen to them, or anye sixe of them (whereof Mr Mayor to bee one), to sell in fee farme, fee symple, or to lett by lease for terme of xxi<sup>ti</sup> yeare and not aboue, anye of the Towne Lande, or any parte thereof (except the Northe Milles, the Sheepe Pennes, the Shambles and draperie and the Graunges with their appurtenaunces) savinge onlye the Newarke Mylnes and the Mylne Howsse to bee lett. The Tithes of St Maries Close not to bee lett. And their authoritye to contynue vntill Michaellmas Daie next. Everie tenaunt to have the first offer.

*Standerdes.* (An attorney for the town authorized to fetch the standards.)

*Standerdes.* [June 9, 1602.] (p. 223.) ...One olde brasen standerd bushell havinge Henricus Septimus with the portculles and greyhounde bossed weighinge threescore (*sic*) sixteene poundes, and one gallon suteable therevnto weighinge eightene poundes, beinge auncient standerd measures sent from the Eschequer in the tyme of Kinge Henrye the seaventhe, and nowe examyned with the standerd there, and founde agreable therevnto, are stamped with the lettre E and crowne imperiall, and retorned againe to the said Borroughe. And therewith also one newe quarte and pinte of brasse havinge Her Highnes stile and armes embossed, and in sondry places stamped with the lettre E and crowne imperiall, proportionable to Hir Maiesties standerd for the said Borroughe of Leycester (etc.).

Hall Papers III, Nos. 172, 186. [Ap. 16, 1602.] (Papers on a burglary at the house of Augustine Nicolls<sup>2</sup>, describing the plate and linen taken, and the marks on the linen. Among the goods were

<sup>1</sup> Original in Hall Papers III, No. 171.

<sup>2</sup> Afterwards Sir Augustine Nicolls.

"a cupborde clothe styched and edged with lace," "a blacke frize coate faced with watched<sup>1</sup> taffata for a boye.") .

Hall Book III, p. 224. [May 28, 1602.] *Concerninge Cole.* Firste itt is agreed that John Clarke (one of the sergantes at mace) shall serve the poore of coles for this yeare. And shall have the vse of the cole money (which ys xviii*li*. xs.). And the same to bee made vppe xx*li*. And he muste ley in att the olde Towne Hall threescore three quarters of good cole or ton sea cole att or before Michaelmas next, and shall buye no coles in the towne, nor comynge to the towne. And shall have the vse of that parte of the olde Hall whiche hathe beene heretofore vsed for the coles. And to have the vse of the towne cole waightes and ballance, vntill Loe Sondaie next. And to serue the poore for vid. the hundred, and so after that rate by the halfe hundred and quarter of the hundred, and to serue them weekelye, vpon the Wednesdaie and Fridaye. And shall vpon Loe Sondaie next repaye the cole monye backe agen to the Chamberlyns of the towne. And xls. for the vse of the Hall, ballance and waightes. And shall vpon the receipte of the cole money bee bownde with a good suertie for the payment of the said cole money and rent. And to bee bounde by himselfe for they leyinge in of the said coles, and well servinge of the pore of coles.

*Lyster. Brooke.* (Their controversy with the town to be again put to compromise.)

*Mr George Belgrave a certificate*<sup>2</sup>. Att this common hawle it was and is agreed to certifie the Lords of her Majesties most honorable privie counsell towching the behavior of Mr George Bellgrave at the choosinge of him to bee one of our burgesses of this burgh for the laste parliament, the copie of which certificate is affixed unto the record of the said haull and are upon the file for this yere togeyther with the names of those which haue sett their handes to the said certificate. (Those which are "totted thus (o) att the first ende or begynnyng of their names" subscribed the letter, and "those which are totted (o) at the end of their names have subscribed to the addition of the letter on the other side the same leafe the lettre is written on.")

(*Lyster and Brooke.*) The copie of lettre from Mr Pilkington towching this cawse. Mr Mayor, I am constrayned bothe to write and send in haste unto you towching Lyster his suyte, wherein this present Tuesdaie the xv<sup>th</sup> of this June it is ordered that if duringe this terme

<sup>1</sup> watched = watchet, a colour.

Also in Hall Papers III, No. 205. See above, p. 435.

tyme 100 marks be not brought into the courte to be paid to Lyster, and suche costes as Master Kempe the secundarie shall assesse, then execucion ys awarded against Brookes his baile. Therefore greate care muste bee had that this be performed, and so Lister his suite is to be discharged. But as for Brookes his counterbond and his proceedinge, it is at libertie, and you are also to seeke for a remedye ageynst him for his doble dealinge and falsitie as your counsell shall advise (etc.) 15 June, 1602.

(Other letters touching the said business remain on the Mayor's file for this year.)

[June 5, 1602.] (p. 225.) Hitt is agreed for that wee can not agree with George Brooke, for Lyster and for himselfe: That therefore there shalbee a piticion made to the Lorde Chieffe Justice of England towchinge there dealing etc.<sup>1</sup>

*Interest for a 100*li*.* [June 13, 1602.] (Sunday.) It is agreed, that for the payment of the interest of one *cli*. for six monethes, the XXIII<sup>ti</sup> shall give iis. apeece, and the XLVIII<sup>ti</sup> xii*d*. apeece.

(Death of Alderman Ludlam noted.)

*Ex parte Hughe Hunter.* [Aug. 29, 1602.] (Sunday.) (p. 226.) The Earle of Huntingdon his honors lettre<sup>2</sup>, towchinge the sparinge of Mr Hunter from beinge in eleccion for the Maior this yeare followinge, was nowe openlie readd, and an answeere thereof is nowe made vnto his honor, to do what they can to give Master Hunter sparinge, accordinge to his Lordships lettre: which lettre with the answeere<sup>3</sup>, is remeyninge vpon the file of this yeare.

*Ex parte Mr Pilkington.* Item it is nowe agreed that Mr Pilkington shalbe made a free man of this Burroughe of Leicester.

The said Mr Pilkington made a free burges of this Burrowe of Leicester, his fine (by the said Companye) referred to Mr Maior whiche he hathe taxed att xs.

The said Mr Pilkington made one of the Eight and Fortie.

The said Mr Pilkington fined for the redempcion of the Chamberlyn-shipp, his fync referred to Mr Maior, whoe hathe assessed the same att xls.

After all this, then presentlie the said Mr Pilkington made a Mayors Brother, and sworne as well to the accustomed othe in that behalfe, as also for the recognisinge of the Queenes Maiestie.

<sup>1</sup> In Hall Papers III, Nos. 210, 211, 216, 218, 228—9, 233 are further papers on Brooke's and Lyster's case for the Newark Grange.

<sup>2</sup> In Hall Papers III, No. 240.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid. No. 241.

*Waytes*<sup>1</sup>. [Sep. 21, 1602.] (p. 232.) The waytes, because they can not agree together, are therefore nowe dismyssed from beinge the Towne Waytes, from henceforthe.

*Vnder vssher free schoole*. [Sep. 29, 1602.] (p. 233.) Also itt ys nowe agreed to give vnto the vnder vssher of the Free schoole xxx.

#### CCCCXXXII. *Chamberlains' Account.*

[1601—2.] *Receipts* £353. 1s. 11d.

*Expenses*...*guiftes*...for bringinge of certen proclamacions for salte uppon saltepeter, wadd<sup>2</sup> and other things...Earle of Lincolnes players more (etc.)...a mutton and half of a veale given to the Judges of Assices 22s....Lorde Dudleys players...Earle of Huntingdons players...Lorde Shandos his players...Lord Ivers<sup>3</sup> his playors...Lorde Vawce his players...to William Shingleton the under ussher of the free-schoole in Leicester 20s....

*Charges in suites of lawe*...suite of Chapman againste the Maior and burgesses...suite of Lyster against Brooke for the towne...£119. 19s. 6d.

*Charges of soldiers*...51s. 2d.

*Reparacions*...portall dore of waynescote att the stayre foote in the parlor....

*Total* £381. 16s. 9½d. Soe the towne is indebted...£28. 14s. 10¼d.

#### CCCCXXXIII. *Minutes of Common Halls.*

Hall Book III, p. 238. [Oct. 7, 1602.] Mr Ellys, Maior, Richard Parkyns Esquier, Recorder, Mr Will<sup>m</sup>. Norys, Mr Heyricke, Mr Will<sup>m</sup>. Morton, Mr Thomas Clarke, Mr Will<sup>m</sup>. Rowe, Mr Thomas Chettell, Mr John Wilne, Mr Andrewe, and Mr Woodforde.

By theise agreed vppon as followeth, viz. :—

*Ex parte Brooke*. In consideracion of the band made by the towne vnto George Brooke, and delyueringe vpp the same bande ageyn vnto the Mayor, Bayliffes and Burgesses, and surceasing of all suites by him ageynst the towne, to have tenne powndes payd him within this fortynitt, and x*li*. more to be paid him at the end of the lease of the Graunges, or within one halfe yeare next after. And to have a bonde from the towne, for the payment of the said last mencioned x*li*.

<sup>1</sup> See p. 439.

<sup>2</sup> wadd = woad.

<sup>3</sup> Evre or Eure.

[Oct. 20, 1602.] Itt is nowe agreed to certifie the Councells lettres towching Yates<sup>1</sup>, the maymed soldyar, and to send the said lettre by Mr Pilkington to Mr Robert Heyricke whoe is nowe att London.

[Oct. 21, 1602.] (p. 239.) (Bond for £10 to Brooke. He signed a general release "except 13s. 4*d.* owed by the town and lent, amongst others, of his Company and of the 24.")

[Nov. 26, 1602.] (p. 240.) *Mr Will<sup>m</sup>. Heyricke, dozen of Spoones<sup>2</sup>.* Memorandum that att this Hall or meetinge, was delyvered to Mr Maior, a dozen of sylver spoones, which Master Will<sup>m</sup>. Heyricke of London, hath given to the towne, in lewe of xs. for his freedome, whoe was made free in Mr Gillottes Mayraltie.

Hall Papers III, No. 219. [c. June, 1602.] The weighte of the plate as followeth viz.

The bason waieth—xlvi<sup>iii</sup> oz. dim.

The ewer wayeth—xxx<sup>i</sup> oz.

The two leverye pottes wayeth—xxiii<sup>iii</sup>, xvi oz.

The three gilde boles waye—xliiii oz.

The towne salte wayeth—36 oz.

Totall—ii<sup>xx</sup><sup>ti</sup> oz. but a quarter, for the which their ys x*vi**d.* put into the bagge of money.

Hall Book III, p. 241. [Jan. 28, 1603.] *Waites ex parte George Ridgley.* Item itt is furthur ordered and agreed that George Ridgley and his companye (beinge fyve in the wholl) be from henceforth (vpon his good behaviour) admitted the towne waites, havinge a lauffull and sufficient companye skilfull in the knowledge and arte of muzicke. And shall have for their wages quarterly of the xxiii<sup>iii</sup><sup>ti</sup> *vid.* apeece, and of the xlvi<sup>iii</sup><sup>ti</sup> quarterlye iii<sup>ii</sup>*d.* apeece, and of the other inhabitantes and Commyners what they in kindenes and good will will give him and his said companye. And to be paid att our Ladye Daye next, as due for a quarter then ended.

[March 26, 1603.] Memorandum that vpon Sayturdaye the xxvi<sup>th</sup> daye of Marche (1603) was proclaymed in the open Markett in the Buroughe of Leicester by the Mayor and his bretherne, the deathe of the Queenes most excellent Maiestie, oure moste gracious late Soueraign Ladye Queene Elizabeth (whoe departed her naturall liefte vpon Wednesdaye night the xxiii<sup>th</sup> of Marche last past) And the Kynge of Scottes proclaymed kinge, as followeth, viz.

(The proclamation follows.)

<sup>1</sup> See p. 430.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 434.

CCCCXXXIV. *Butchers' Petition.*

Hall Papers III, No. 245. [Undated.] To the right worshipfull Mr Maior and the Justices with the rest off y<sup>e</sup> assistantes off the Burrough off Leicester.

The humble petition off y<sup>e</sup> Company of Butchers off the burrough afforesaid.

Humbly sheweth that whereas your petitioners are bound to bringe there wares which they kill to y<sup>e</sup> weekeday shambles, comonly cald y<sup>e</sup> common shambles and there to sell and expose the same to bee sould, which said practise and custome tends much to the damage off your petitioners, especially off the poorer sorte, who are constrained to bringe wares to the said shambles and cannot vend it, the place or shambles beeing out off y<sup>e</sup> way of tradeinge and remote from the innes and shopkeepers who are the greatest support of the markett: And whereas there is a place cald y<sup>e</sup> Saturday shambles more convenient for your petitioners to sell there wares, the other beeing only vsefull to a few particular men but generally inconvenient to y<sup>e</sup> whole:—

Your petitioners doe humbly pray your worshippe would take the premisses in to your seriouse consideration and appoint the Saturday shambles to sell there wares in the week dayes.

CCCCXXXV. *Petition from St Mary's Parish.*

Box 9 A, No. 13 (14). [Undated.] Humblye beseechethe your honour, the poore parishoners of the parishe of St Marie, in the towne of Leicester, in the Countie of Leicester, that where the stypend of the pryste, or curatte, whiche nowe servethe within the said parishe, ys onlie viii*li*. by the yeare, and so hathe byn for many yeares paste, whereby the said parishoners could nott nor cannott procure any learned man to serve the said cure, the smalenesse of the said stypend beeing suche, by reason whereof the said parishoners have a longe tyme byn served withe unlearned mynisters, vnable to instructe them as appurteignethe throughe the want whereof dyverse of the younger sort are become verrie vndewtifull, lewde and disordered: For reformation whereof, the said parisschoners have been well disposed (accordinge to their abilities) to augment the said stypend, to thintente a learned mynister might be placed in the said cure:



And now for the better accomplyshinge of whiche the humble petycion of the said parishoners to your honour ys, that where one Edward Holte, esquier, holdethe of Her Maiestie for terme of yeares, the late dissolved colledge of St Marie within the said' parishe, whiche terme of yeares ys verrie neere exsphyred, yf (in consideracion of the premisses) and for that the towne of Leicester is the most populose towne of the duchie and nedethe most relif for their many poore there, yt maye please your honour, that a lease for (blank) yeares of the premisses maye be graunted vnto three or fower of the most substancyall men, of discreete behavjour, within the said parishe, or els to the Mayor and comburgenses of the said towne of Leicester, to the vse of the said parishoners, to be imployed to the mayntenaunce of a learned mynister within the said parishe, and relief of Her Maiesties tenauntes, beinge for the moste parte of the porest of the said parishe, and other of the pore inhabitauntes within the said parishe and towne: And that therebie the premisses maie be inhabited by tenauntes of better behavior then nowe they arr or have been :—for the obteyninge of whiche said lease, the said parishoners will yealde vnto Her Maiestie suche a fyne or income, as any other will geave for the same, or as by your honour shalbe thought reasonable, and also suche yearelie rent as ys nowe payable for the same :—Wherein yf your honour vouchsafe your godlie favor in this our peticion it will in tyme come to good effecte and avoidinge of muche contencion, Godes worde shalbe duellie and syncearlie preached, good orders emongest them establisshed, vyce abollyshed, the said parishoners be taught their duties bothe towardes God and their prynce, the poore releyved and Her Maiesties tenementes within the said parishe and towne (many of them beinge nowe in greate decaye) repayred and maynteyned. And also youe shall thereby bynd the said parishoners beinge of the number of fyfteene hundred or above, for ever hereafter daielie to praye to God for youe and your honours posteritye in prosperouse estate longe to contynewe with muche increase of honour.

CCCCXXXVI. *Easter Book and Terrier of St Mary's, Leicester.*

[A small paper volume, in the original binding of stamped leather. In the binding are ff. ix, x, xv—xix, xxii, xxiii, from the *Doctrinale* of Alexander de Villa Dei, a foreign printed book c. 1520. I owe the identification to Mr C. Sayle.]

The book contains lists of parishoners of St Mary, taken systematically house by house, always beginning with Henry Nubold (of the Mill); first those in Soar Lane, then those in "West Cotes," "Welch Gate," The High Street, and Without

South Gate, about 200 in all ; against each householder's name is set the payment for himself, his wife and any other inmates, for servants and apprentices, for h(ouse) g(arden), closes, peartrees, fruit, orchards, kine, calves, mares and colts, ducks, drakes, and hens, etc. The usual payment is 2*d.* for each member of the household, men-servants and maids, house and garden 1*d.* each, and the live-stock and fruitful trees 1*d.* each, as Easter due. The lists are for each of the years 1579—1590. There are also notes of various matters concerning the maker of the book, whose name is not given : he appears to have been acting for the parson of St Mary's whom he calls his master. The owner of the book appears to have been the brother-in-law of one John Bush who was keeping the Easter Book in 1572<sup>1</sup>. Several entries refer to the difficulties found in recovering tithe moneys due. There is an inventory of 1590 of an unimportant kind.

The most interesting entry is on f. 84*b.* "A terror of the 22 landes lying in the West Fields belonging to St Mary's Collidge in Leicester," which describes certain strips in the West Fields, already partly enclosed. Mill field and Dove-land field were probably two out of the three fields into which this arable area was divided.]

f. 84*b.* Fyrst in Mr Daynt's Barre piece 2 lands being the 7th and 8th [corr. fr. 15th and 16th] from the lane called Mary Lane.

Item one land in Branson furlong being the 4th from the fur hedge, between West Cotes on both sydes.

Item in the Mylnefeld between West Cotes on both sydes 4 lands and one laye, the laye being the 3rd beande<sup>2</sup> a thorne tree grouun upon the flat that suteth<sup>3</sup> towards the Sore and goeth to the water syd thorow the hedge.

Item one other between West Cotes on both sydes being the 5 from the fur hedge. Item 2, being the 2 and 3 and another being the 5th from the hadland lying on the hill side by Coventry way, the had land being the 6th.

One land lying betwixt West Cotes and Berridge<sup>4</sup> and the other 2 betwixt Berridge on both sides.

Item 2 in the walley by Graveley Furlung between 2 of Mr Rudinges late Parkynson and one of Mr Danytes late Hoors.

Item 2 in the same field suting thorow the hedge in the Cowclose being the 4th and 5th from the hedge between West Cotes and Mr Peltne modo Mr Danyte in Doveland feeld.

Item 2 being the 2 and 3 from the Hadland that leadeth to Mr Ruding shipcote between Mr Danyt and West Cotes.

Item 2 at St Jones Bush between land of St Jones<sup>5</sup> now the Queen's and the hedge upon Mr Danyts land late Mr Pultne.

Item 2 in the Cowclose at Doveland corner being the 6 and 7 from the hedge between Mr Danyt late Mr Poltne's land and West Cotes.

<sup>1</sup> A short extract is given f. 34 naming "Whattgate" (Hotgate) and Maiden Lane.

<sup>2</sup> beyond.

<sup>3</sup> shooteth.

<sup>4</sup> An owner's name.

<sup>5</sup> St John's hospital.

Item 2 upon Doveland furlunge betwene West Cotes and father Burstall.

Item one being the 8 from the mear<sup>1</sup> on this syde y<sup>e</sup> Shipcote<sup>2</sup> on this syde Mr Danyte late Mr Pultneys.

Item one in the park now being the 6 from the hedge betwene Mr Danyt and West Cotes.

<sup>1</sup> boundary.

<sup>2</sup> sheepcote.

## APPENDIX.

*[The following on pasture rights was omitted from its proper place p. 70.]*

Box 22, No. 494. [June 4, 1552.] (Award) betwene the inhabitaunts of the heigh towne of Leicester and John Blackwell fermor of the Bishoppes Fee...<sup>1</sup>wytnesseth wher by prescripcyon the sayed inhabitauntes of the heigh towne...clayme herbage and commens of pasture for their hackney horssees in the medows called Leicester medowes all tymes of the yere that the same lye open, paying yerely unto the saied fermor the tack accustomed which is for every horsse *iiii*d. they wer denyed that libertye by John Blackwell nowe fermor ther: Wheruppon gret variaunces...dyd aryse betwixt the sayd saied parties who then condescended to stand to...soche arbitrament...that we Henry Duke of Suffolk...should arbytre...we therfore...with the depositions of old persones that cowlde declare the trew vsage of the saied medowes in open tyme for the space of thre skore yeres do...award...First that the Mayor and Justices of Leicester...shall...yerely...nominate and appoynt owte these pastures of the heigh towne...that shall have the goyng of any horssees or mares in the...Leicester medowes which persons...shall have commens of pasture for fowrtie horssees or mares...for the tacke of fowre pence...which farmour...shall marke or brand theym for his better knowledge of theym...And when and as often as he shall fynde more horssees or mares (being any of the inhabitaunts of the heighe towne) above the nombre of fowrtie...it shall be lawfull...unto the saied fermor...to impounde so many as he shall ther fynde abov that nombre...and take for the pynnage of every soche trespassing horsse or mare for every tyme twelve pence. Provyded alway that if the said Mayor of Leicester and the inhabitaunts of the heighe towne shall hereafter shewe and prove by juste tittle that they ought to have further right...that then theffecte of this awarde to cease (and this award without prejudice to any having estate of inheritance in the said meadows, with pasture rights) And also that this adward extend not to the destraynt of the inhabitaunts of saynt Leonards parishe at Leicester to have theyr gate of horssees and kyne...but that yt shall be lefull for theym to have ther for every howse two kye, payng the tacke for every cove two pence, and every occupier or other ther dwelling using marketts with hackney horssees to have oon horsse gate for the tack of *iiii*d.

<sup>1</sup> The formal words have been omitted.

*Documents additional to Volumes I. and II.*

The Corporation have recently recovered by purchase the lost original of Earl Robert Fitzparnel's charter (with seal), printed from the Vellum Book copy in volume I. p. 8, also the lost original of Simon de Montfort's charter expelling the Jews from Leicester, which is printed in Nichols' *History of Leicestershire*, I. i. App. p. 38 No. 13. A translation is given in Thompson's *Leicester*, p. 72. Bémont, *Simon de Montfort*, p. 62, gives the date as 1253 but as Simon calls himself 'dominus' not earl the charter may more probably be dated before 1239. The charter is witnessed by domino Almarico de Muterun, domino Waltero de Ayuile, domino Rogero Blundo capellano, Willelmo de Anet[o] tunc ballivo Leicestrie, Willelmo Basset, Willelmo de Martivall. The seal: Ø a shield of arms: a lion rampant, queue fourchée. Legend 'S. Simonis Montisfortis.' R small counterseal, with lion.

Box 12 A contains some summonses from the sheriffs to the bailiff of the honour and town of Leicester, belonging to the reign of Richard II.; a copy of proceedings before the King's Justices at Westminster against the bailiff of Nottingham who had taken toll of the tenants of the honour of Leicester, 6-7 Henry IV.; some copies of Quo Warranto proceedings, printed in the Record Commissioner's volume; and copies of charters printed in these Records, volumes I. and II. The only item of interest is a roll of the goods consumed by the army of Edmund of Lancaster at the siege of Kenilworth, 1266, which should probably be associated with Nos. XXXVI., XXXVIII. in volume I. pp. 124, 126 (see also II. p. 382). It is headed 'a domino Edmundo, isti homines sui de Leycestria petunt ista debita de prisīs ex parte sua apud Leycestriam.' In the list the name of Poncius de Mirabel is frequently mentioned, and cloth was bought for Welsh arbalisters and archers. The repair of the 'costrells' or wine bottles, and the purchase of dishes is named. The money lent by the 'communa' of Leicester through Sir Hugh Accover amounted to 40 marks.

Portfolio of Letters No. 155. A 'church brief' (printed) from the Archbishop of Canterbury and Lord Howard of Effingham, on behalf of the Kingston-on-Thames Grammar School, Aug. 4, 1585. It has been printed in the *Surrey Comct*, May 2, 1903, by Professor Joseph B. Mayor.

*List of Mayors, Recorders, Chamberlains etc.*

1509-1603.

The list is compiled from the records. The elections took place on Sep. 21.

*Mayors.*

1509-10	Ric. Eyre	1547-48	Ran. Wood
1510-11	Will. Wygeston jun.	1548-49	John Gaytliff
1511-12	Will. Wygeston thelder	1549-50	Nic. Reynold
1512-13	Ric. Gyllott	1550-51	Rob. Newcom
1513-14	Ric. Reynold	1551-52	Tho. Wilcokes
1514-15	Tho. Burton	1552-53	Nic. Heyrek
1515-16	Tho. Cotton	1553-54	Tho. Davynport
1516-17	John Reede	1554-55	John Berredghe
1517-18	Tho. Smyth	1555-56	Rob. Jonys
1518-19	Ric. Beeston	1556-57	Will. Manbe
1519-20	Will. Bartlatt	1557-58	John Heireke
1520-21	Will. Wygston senior	1558-59	Rob. Fletcher
1521-22	Rob. Harward	1559-60	Tho. Stanforde
1522-23	Will. Bolt	1560-61	Ric. Derker
1523-24	Ric. Reynold	1561-62	Tho. Hallam
1524-25	{Rob. Staples <sup>1</sup>	1562-63	Will. Reynoldes
	{Hen. Gillot	1563-64	Ric. Davye
1525-26	Edw. Beyr	1564-65	Sim. Nix
1526-27	John Westawse	1565-66	Tho. Fowler
1527-28	Tho. Burton	1566-67	John Tatam
1528-29	Rog. Gyllatt	1567-68	Will. Noris
1529-30	Tho. Bett	1568-69	Will. Manby
1530-31	Will. Tebb	1569-70	Ja. Clarck
1531-32	Nic. Rennold	1570-71	Nic. Englyshe
1532-33	John Barton	1571-72	Will. Gyllott
1533-34	Christopher Clught	1572-73	John Eyricke
1534-35	Will. Bolte	1573-74	Tho. Stanford
1535-36	Tho. Barton	1574-75	Tho. Hallam
1536-37	Rog. Gyllott	1575-76	Ric. Davye
1537-38	Ran. A Wood	1576-77	John Stanford
1538-39	Will. Pratt	1577-78	John Tatam
1539-40	Nic. Reynold	1578-79	John Myddleton
1540-41	Rob. Gaddysby	1579-80	Will. Noryce
1541-42	Hugh Aston	1580-81	Georg. Tatam
1542-43	Tho. Cressy	1581-82	Phil. Freake
1543-44	Christopher Clught	1582-83	Will. Moreton
1544-45	Will. Ollyffe	1583-84	Tho. Clarke
1545-46	Rob. Cotton	1584-85	Rob. Heyrycke
1546-47	Rob. Mey	1585-86	James Clarke

<sup>1</sup> Died in office.

1586-87	James Ellis	1595-96	Will. Yates
1587-88	Will. Ludlam	1596-97	Will. Morton
1588-89	Georg. Noryce	1597-98	Tho. Nixe
1589-90	John Hynde	1598-99	Tho. Clarke
1590-91	John Tatam	1599-1600	Ed. Newcombe
1591-92	Rad. Chettell	1600-01	Rob. Gillott
1592-93	John Stanford	1601-02	Will. Rows
1593-94	Rob. Heyrycke	1602-03	James Ellis
1594-95	Georg. Tatam		

*Recorders.*

1509	Thos. Jakes	1551	Hunt
1510	Ralph Swillington <sup>1</sup>	1553	Francis Farnham
1526	Thos. Brokesby	1557	Francis Eyton
1537	John Beaumont	1558	Robert Braham
1542	Edward Griffin	1575	Richard Parkins
1550	John Beaumont		

*Mayor's Clerks or Clerks of the Peace.*

1517	Will. Bolt	1566	Tho. Breuster
1531	Will. Fowler	1572	Will. Dethick
1545	Fr. Moss		

[For the Stewardship and Bailiwick see the Index.]

*Bailiffs.*

1531-40	Thomas Catlyn	1567-68	Thos. Newcome
	Robert Catlyn	1568-69	Nic. English
1547	Purchase by the town of the bailiwick (p. 54) from Mr Thos. Danet		Thos. Newcome
1548	Robert Newcome	1569	Will. Singleton
1553	John Berege	1579	Purchase of bailiwick by the town from John Stanford who bought from John Danet (p. 179)
1564-65	Will. Reynold	1579-80	Richard Archer deputy to John Danet
	Thos. Fowler	1594	John Wilne
1565-66	Will. Newcome	1599	Thos. Chettle
	John Tatam		James Andrew
1566-67	Will. Norris	1599-1600	John Wilne
	Thos. Newcome		
1567-68	James Clarke		

<sup>1</sup> For his life see Mr Leadam's *Star Chamber* (Selden Society), p. 176, note.

*Members of Parliament.*

1523	Will. Bolt	1558-9 <sup>1</sup>	Rob. Breame
	Rog. Wigston	1562-3 <sup>1</sup>	Rob. Breham
1529	Thos. Brokesby		Rob. Brokesbye
	Rob. Harwar	1572	Rob. Breham
1547 <sup>1</sup>	Geo. Swillington		John Stanford
	Rad. Skinner	1584	Hen. Skipwith
1552-3 <sup>1</sup>	Geo. Swillington		Thos. Johnson
	Rob. Cotton	1586	The same
1553 <sup>1</sup>	Will. Fawnt	1588 <sup>1</sup>	John Chippingdale
	Tho. Farnham		Rob. Heyricke
1554	Fr. Farnham	1592-3	John Stanford
	Tho. Jenkinson		James Clarke
1555 <sup>1</sup>	Fr. Farnham	1597	Geo. Parkins
	[Hugh Aston <sup>2</sup> ]		John Stanford jun.
1557-8 <sup>1</sup>	Rob. Breaham	1601	Geo. Belgrave
	Maur. Tyrrell		Will. Heyricke
1558-9 <sup>1</sup>	John Hastings		

*Two lists of the Twenty-four and Forty-eight.*

1558-9. [The Mayor and Recorder always head the Twenty-four<sup>3</sup>.]

mortuus	† Thomas Wilcocks	sick <sup>4</sup> †	Joh. Tatam	
	Will. Manbye		Will. Blackwyn	
	John Heyrycke		Will. Norris	
	† Nic. Heyrycke	defect. †	Ric. Woodward	sicke
	John Smythe	def.	Will. Oldam	
	Rob. Fletcher		Rog. Poott	
	Wyll. Reynold	def.	Seth Berage	sicke
	Ric. Darker		James Clerke	
	Tho. Hallam	† def. †	[Nic.] Englisshe	
	Ric. Davye	Lond.	Mr Asshebye	
	Sim. Nixe		Mr Beryage	
	Tho. Fowler		Mr Yett <sup>5</sup>	
	Joh. Pare			

<sup>1</sup> Supplied from the writs.

<sup>2</sup> Supplied by Nichols.

<sup>3</sup> The 10 aldermen of wards are not the first on the list.

<sup>4</sup> The 24 are all styled Mr, the 48 are not.

<sup>5</sup> The last two are the Chamberlains, Will. Beryage and Ric. Yates.



*The Forty-eight.*

† Will. Berrage † }		Rob. Wilcocks	
† Ric. Yates † }		Ric. Rutter	
† Ric. Collynson †	Camérar <sup>1</sup>	Will. Woodland	
Joh. Harryson	mort <sup>1</sup> est	Osw. Eyre	
Joh. Moare	defect.	Ric. Rawlynson	
Rob. Inseley		Will. Moorton	
Tho. Flemyng		Joh. Kyssyn	Lond <sup>1</sup> .
Ric. Reyneford		Will. Burges	
Ric. Randall		Rob. Davye	
Will. Durrand		Phil. Phreyke	
John Harryson		Tho. Shylton	
John Busshe		Tho. Wilne	
Sim. Crafts		Joh. Ynge	
Ric. Ley		Den. Sympon	
Rob. Tynpson	defect.	† Geo. Asshebye †	def.
Thos. Bugge		Tho. Bruester	
Hen. Moosely		Tho. Bamford	
Rob. Rood		Joh. Midleton	
Will. Shyngleton	defect.	Tho. Newcombe	
† Tho. Flemynge †		Will. Davye	def.
Joh. Wilne		Hen. Bothe	
Joh. Corker		Will. Ludlam	
† Will. Heyghton †		† Nic. English †	
Will. Gillott		† Mic. Clerke †	
Arth. Clerke		Mic. Clerke	
Ric. Parker		Joh. Saunders	
† Will. Onered	mort. †	Geo. Tatam	
Chris. Meacalf		Joh. Wilcocks	
Ric. Wilson		Will. Budworth	

[For the lists of 1598-9 see the text, pp. 361-2.]

1602-3. [The Mayor and Recorder head the list of the Twenty-four.]

Will. Norris		Edw. Newcome	
† John Stanforde †	mortuus <sup>2</sup>	Rob. Gyllott	
Rob. Heyrycke		† Will. Rows †	mortuus <sup>3</sup>
Will. Morton		Hugh Hunter	
† Tho. Clarke †	mortuus	John Mabbes	
Tho. Nixe		Tho. Chettell	

<sup>1</sup> The Chamberlains are entered at the head of the Forty-eight as well as at the end of the Twenty-four.

<sup>2</sup> A note to his name runs "mem. that Mr S. departed 17 March at Elmeſthorpe and was buried at Barkeby on Sunday next after."

<sup>3</sup> There is a note of his death on Whitsunday night : buried at the old hospital.

Tho. Manby  
Lib. Chamberlyn  
Will. Warde  
Tho. Chapman  
Joh. Freake  
Joh. Wylne

Tho. Warde  
Joh. Bonnett  
James Andrewe  
Joh. Woodforde  
Rob. Pylkyngton  
Will. Stanley

*The Forty-eight.*

[The Chamberlains head the list.]

Will. Biggs  
Tho. Hunt  
Rob. Wooley  
Rob. Atton  
Mic. Thornton  
Ric. Stanford  
Arth. Tatam  
† Will. Stanley<sup>1</sup>  
Reg. Fawsytt  
Hugh Marshall  
Joh. Knight  
Anth. Webster  
Tho. Pare  
Joh. Launder  
† Chris. Nedam<sup>4</sup>  
Tho. Tayllor  
Geo. Brooke  
Tho. Eyrycke  
Joh. Hawle  
Bart. Middleton  
Tho. Stanford  
Joh. Heyrycke  
Hen. Benyngton  
Will. Vyckers

respass<sup>7</sup>

Joh. Pare  
Tho. Parker  
Rob. Crosbye  
Rob. Johnson  
Joh. Bagge  
Nic. Gyllott  
Will. Ive  
Ric. Normande  
Joh. Hynde  
Geo. Howytt  
Edw. Mandley  
Tho. Vyckers  
Tho. Pestell  
Will. Thorpe  
Joh. Wylde  
Joh. Overend  
Fr. Beste  
Joh. Tompson  
Will. Boyer  
Tho. Walker  
Mic. Rudyng  
Will. Ludlam  
Hen. Palmer<sup>2</sup>  
Gilb. Fawsytt

appointed of this  
company jur<sup>3</sup>

*Chamberlains<sup>3</sup>.*

1509-10 Edw. Haslop  
Tho. Newcom  
1510-11 Tho. Bolton  
Joh. Westowes  
1511-12 Tho. Heryk  
Rad. Garshet

1512-13 John Fowler  
Will. Prowett  
1513-14 John Whytt  
Will. Deyn  
1514-15 Rob. Edward  
Rad. Burton

<sup>1</sup> His name is struck out, and there is a note that he was 'made a brother,' *i.e.* one of the Twenty-four, who by Elizabeth's charter of 1599 were Aldermen.

<sup>2</sup> A note: "dismissed at the suit of himself and of his master."

<sup>3</sup> The first for the community, the second for the Mayor.

1515-16	Will. Byller Tho. Hynde	1540-41	John Symyth John Bayryge
1516-17	Will. Tebbe Laur. Watson	1541-42	Nic. Carter Ric. Stowghton
1517-18	Mic. Heyne Nic. Wasse	1542-43	Will. Alsop Hugh Barlow
1518-19	Will. Clerke Edw. Lytherlond	1543-44	Will. Manbe John Hyrycke
1519-20	Tho. Cotton junior Michell Escryke	1544-45	Rob. Jonys Ric. Collynson
1520-21	Tho. Myddyllton Will. Westose	1545-46	Rob. Harvy Ric. Welche
1521-22	Will. Prate Tho. Cressey	1546-47	Rob. Flechar Will. Blakwyn
1522-23	Rob. Gaddysby Tho. Bosse	1547-48	Will. Raynold Tho. Hallam
1523-24	Will. Olyff Tho. Hewet junior	1548-49	Tho. Stanford Tho. Jenkynson
1524-25	Will. Cokyn John Norres	1549-50	Ric. Derker Ric. Davy
1525-26	John Pycke Robert Phelype	1550-51	Will. Taillor Smyth Ric. Hewys
1526-27	Ric. Staples John Best	1551-52	Sim. Nix Ed. Westeus
1527-28	Thom. Waytbys John Hawbard	1552-53	Seyth. Berradge Ric. Mabley
1528-29	John Jackson Ric. Fenys	1553-54	Will. Smythe Rog. Pott
1529-30	John Bettlyff John Bod	1554-55	John Tatam Ja. Croft
1530-31	H. Barton Will. Gybson	1555-56	Rad. Charles Will. Norris
1531-32	Will. Jolle John Sharratt	1556-57	John Rosse Will. Alysander
1532-33	Tho. Fox Ric. Brysbon	1557-58	John Harrison Ja. Clerk
1533-34	John Lambarde John Holmes	1558-59	Rob. Insley John More
1534-35	John Bostoke	1559-60	Ric. Yattes Will. Berredge
1535-36	Rob. Wolay Chris. Lambard	1560-61	Ric. Randall Will. Gyllott
1536-37	Harry Grene Tho. Davy	1561-62	Will. Shyngleton Rob. Willcokes
1537-38	John Olyf Tho. Wilkokes	1562-63	John Bushe John Middleton
1538-39	Tho. Lay Rob. Burton	1563-64	Rob. Roodes Rob. Davys
1539-40	Rob. Newcome Nic. Heyryck	1564-65	Will. Morton

1564-65	John Wilcockes	1584-85	Will. Rowdes
1565-66	John Stanford		Val. Welles
	Ric. Parker	1585-86	Fran. Wattes
1566-67	Arth. Clerke		Hug. Hunter
	Will. Yates	1586-87	Geor. Oldam
1567-68	Will. Ludnham		Tho. Chettell
	Denis Symson	1587-88	Ric. Burstall
1568-69	Ja. Elleys		John Freake
	Tho. Clark	1588-89	Tho. Hunt
1569-70	Tho. Tyers		Rob. Woolley
	Ric. Stanford	1589-90	Ran. Stanford
1570-71	Rad. Chetell		John Bonnytt
	Tho. Chamberlyn	1590-91	Will. Warde
1571-72	Tho. Bug		John Woodforde
	Tho. Baldon	1591-92	Rob. Atton
1572-73	Geor. Norrys		Mic. Thornton
	John Hyend	1592-93	Tho. Manbye
1573-74	Rob. Heyricke		Ric. Stanford
	Will. Dakyns	1593-94	Edm. Hawkes
1574-75	Fran. Norris		Jac. Andrewe
	Rob. Gaddesbye	1594-95	Henry Halpenye
1575-76	Chris. Alizander		Will. Stanley
	Ric. Archer	1595-96	John Spencer
1576-77	Rog. Stringar		Reg. Fawsytt
	Tho. Stanford	1596-97	Hugh Marshall
1577-78	Rob. Robartes		Hen. Wormall
	Ed. Newcombe	1597-98	Tho. Pare
1578-79	Tho. Nixe		John Lawneder
	John Blackshawe	1598-99	George Brooke
1579-80	Ric. Orton		Tho. Eyricke
	Lib. Chamberlyn	1599-1600	Bart. Middleton
1580-81	Marcus Dakyn		Tho. Stanforde
	Will. Fowler	1600-01	Hen. Bennington
1581-82	John Mabbes		Will. Vickars
	Hen. Brinckhurst	1601-02	Joh. Pare
1582-83	John Byddle		Tho. Parker
	Rob. Gyllott	1602-03	Wiatt Fowler
1583-84	Will. Bigges		Will. Hunt
	Hen. Syddowne		

*Coroners<sup>1</sup>.*

1509-10	Will. Bartlott	1546-47	Nic. Eyreke
	Joh. Rede	1547-48	John Gaitlif
1510-11	Tho. Cotton	1548-49	Will. Overend
1511-12	Mr Dalton		Tho. Dainport
	Mr Chattok	1549-50	Mr Smythe
1512-13	Hen. Gyllott	1550-51	Mr Berredge
1513-14	Rob. Harwar	1551-52	Nic. Carter
1514-15	Will. Bolt	1552-53	Mr Jones
1515-16	Walt. Lysle	1553-54	Mr Manbe
1516-17	Joh. Talbott	1554-55	John Heireke
1517-18	Walt. Lysle	1555-56	Rob. Harve
1518-19	Tho. Newcom	1556-57	Rob. Flecher
1519-20	Rob. Stabull	1557-58	Will. Reynolde
1520-21	Edw. Bere	1558-59	Tho. Stanford
1521-22	† Tho. Newton+		Ric. Darker
	Joh. Westose	1559-60	Mr Hallam
1522-23	Mr Allsope	1560-61	Ric. Danye
1523-24	Mr Rog. Gyllat	1561-62	Sim. Nyx
1524-25	Mr Bett	1562-63	Tho. Fowler
1525-26	Mr Teeb	1563-64	John Tatam
1526-27	Mr Beett	1564-65	Will. Norys
1527-28	Mr Davey	1565-66	Rog. Pott
1528-29	Mr Nic. Reynold	1566-67	Jac. Clerke
1529-30	Mr Barton	1567-68	Nic. Englishe
1530-31	Mr Clowgh		Ric. Vates
1531-32	Mr Wode	1568-69	Will. Gillott
1532-33	Mr Garvett		Rob. Wilcookes
1533-34	Mr Prate	1569-70	John Middelton
1534-35	Mr Gadesbe	1570-71	John Wilne
1535-36	Mr Will. Westowyse	1571-72	Geor. Tatam
1536-37	Mr Tho. Myddylton	1572-73	Ph. Phreyke
	Mr Hugh Aston	1573-74	John Stanford
1537-38	Mr Tho. Cressey	1574-75	Tho. Newcome
1538-39	Mr Will. Olyff	1575-76	Will. Moreton
1539-40	Mr Symond Pays	1576-77	Tho. Clarke
1540-41	Mr Rob. Cotton	1577-78	Will. Wurshippe
1541-42	Rob. May	1578-79	Rob. Heyricke
1542-43	Mr Ric. Stapulles	1579-80	Jac. Ellys
1543-44	Chris. Lambard	1580-81	Will. Ludlam
1544-45	Mr Newcomb	1581-82	Ric. Stanford
1545-46	Tho. Wylcookes	1582-83	John Wilcookes

<sup>1</sup> The coroners as a rule held office for two years in such a way that each year there was a new and an old coroner. In the above list the new coroner's name is printed.

1583-84	Georg. Noryce	1594-95	Rob. Robardes
1584-85	John Hynde	1595-96	John Mabbes
1585-86	Rad. Chettell		Fran. Wattes
1586-87	Bla. Villers	1596-97	J. Mabbes
1587-88	Will. Yates		Tho. Chettell
1588-89	Ed. Newcome	1597-98	Tho. Manbye
1589-90	Tho. Willne	1598-99	Leb. Chamberlyn
1590-91	Tho. Nyxe	1599-1600	Will. Warde
1591-92	Rob. Gyllatt	1600-01	Tho. Chapman
1592-93	Will. Rowes	1601-02	John Freake
1593-94	Hugh Hunter	1602-03	Thos. Warde

*Stewards of the Fair.*

1509-10	Walt. May	1519-20	Joh. Dallton
	Ric. Beston	1520-21	Ric. Beston
	John Lokyer		Rob. Sapule
1510-11	Ric. Reynold		Joh. Westose
	Miles Lamberd	1521-22	Will. Bartelatt
	Will. Bartlott		Edw. Bere
1511-12	Mr Eyre		Edw. Allsope
	Mr Dalton	1522-23	Mr Beeston
	Mr May		Mr Beere
1512-13	Ric. Reynold		Mr Staples
	John Reed	1523-24	Mr Waysse
	Rob. Harward		Mr Harward
1513-14	Miles Lamberd		Mr Rog. Gyllat
	[ ] Bartelott	1524-25	Mr Bere
	Tho. Smyth		Mr Westawze
1514-15	Walt. May		Mr Martyn
	Tho. Chattok	1525-26	Mr Cotton
	John Reed		Mr Beett
1515-16	John Wayzs		Mr Teeb
	John Talbet	1526-27	Mr Harwar
	John Dalton		Mr Burton
1516-17	Mr Eyre		Mr Rog. Gyllatt
	Mr Smyth	1527-28	Mr Cotton
	Mr H. Gillott		Mr Beett
1517-18	Mr Wayzs		Mr Teebb
	Joh. Talbott	1528-29	Mr Wayse
	Will. Bolt		Mr Westowse
1518-19	Tho. Burton		Mr Davey
	Edw. Beere	1529-30	Mr Cotton
	Tho. Newton		Mr Tebb
1519-20	Joh. Wayzs		Mr Nic. Reynold
	Ric. Eyre	1530-31	Mr Westes
	Hen. Gyllott		Mr Gyllatt

1530-31	Mr Barton	1547-48	Tho. Cresse
1531-32	Mr Wasse		John Berrege
	Mr Bett		Rob. Johnys
	Mr Clowgh	1548-49	Hugo Aston
1532-33	Mr Cotton		John Heyrek
	Mr Tebb		Rob. Have
	Mr Gadesbe	1549-50	Mr Cotton
1533-34	Mr Westes		Mr Nic. Heirek
	Mr Reynoldes		Mr Manbe
	Mr Wolde	1550-51	Mr Aston
1534-35	Mr Tebb		Mr Overend
	Mr Barton		Mr Harve
	Mr Will. Westes	1551-52	Will. Ollif
1535-36	Mr Nic. Reynold		Rob. Flecher
	Mr Chris. Clough		Will. Reynold
	Mr Radol. Wood	1552-53	Mr Cotton
1536-37	Mr John Westouys		Mr Berradge
	Mr John Barton		Mr Stanford
	Mr Will. Pratt	1553-54	Rob. Newcome
1537-38	Mr Will. Tebb		Ric. Derker
	Mr Chris. Clugh		Tho. Hallam
	Mr Tho. Cresse	1554-55	Tho. Wilcockes
1538-39	Mr Westouys		Will. Manbe
	Mr John Barton		Ric. Hewys
	Mr Symond	1555-56	Nic. Heirek
1539-40	Mr Will. Bolt		Rob. Flecher
	Mr Ran. Wode		Ric. Dave
	Mr Rob. Cotton	1556-57	John Berredge
1540-41	Mr Will. Tebb		Will. Tayllor
	Mr John Westouys		Ric. Welche
	Mr Olyff	1557-58	Hugo Aston
1541-42	Mr Clugh		Will. Blakwen
	Mr Pratt		Will. Norris
	Mr May	1558-59	John Smythe
1542-43	Mr Gaddysby		John Tatam
	Mr Newcome		John Pare
	Mr Wod	1559-60	Mr Reynolde
1543-44	Mr Westouys		Mr Nyx
	Mr Aston		Mr Odam
	Mr Stapulles	1560-61	Rob. Fletcher
1544-45	Mr Cresse		Rog. Poott
	Mr May		Ja. Clerke
	Mr Newcomb	1561-62	Tho. Stanford
1545-46	Rog. Gyllott		Ric. Woodward
	John Smyth		Seth Beriage
	Nic. Eyyrk	1562-63	Ric. Darker
1546-47	Will. Ollif		Ric. Yate
	Tho. Wilcokes		Will. Beriage
	Will. Overend	1563-64	Tho. Hallam

1563-64	John Tatam	1579-80	Tho. Clarke
	Nic. Englyshe	1580-81	John Myddleton
1564-65	John Eryke		Rob. Wilcookes
	Rob. Wilcookes		Geor. Noryce
	John Middleton	1581-82	Will. Noryce
1565-66	Will. Reynoldes		Will. Moreton
	Will. Gyllott		John Hyend
	Rob. Insley	1582-83	Geor. Tatam
1566-67	Sim. Nix		Tho. Clarke
	Will. Shyngleton		Rad. Chettell
	John Wylne	1583-84	Phil. Freake
1567-68	Tho. Fowler		Will. Worshipp
	Geor. Tatam		Blac. Villers
	Phil. Freyke	1584-85	Will. Moreton
1568-69	John Tatam		Ja. Ellys
	John Stanford		Will. Yates
	Tho. Newcombe	1585-86	Tho. Clarke
1569-70	Will. Noris		Will. Ludlam
	John Middleton		Ed. Newcombe
	Will. Morton	1586-87	Rob. Herryck
1570-71	Rob. Fletcher		John Wilcookes
	Rob. Wilcookes		Tho. Wilne
	John More	1587-88	Ja. Clarke
1571-72	Ja. Clerke		Rad. Chettell
	Ph. Freke		Tho. Nyxe
	Tho. Clerke	1588-89	Ja. Ellyce
1572-73	Nic. Englishe		John Hynde
	John Wilne		Rob. Gyllatt
	Will. Wurshipp	1589-90	Will. Ludlam
1573-74	Will. Gillott		Will. Yates
	John Mydleton		Will. Rowes
	Geor. Tatham	1590-91	Geor. Noryce
1574-75	John Eyricke		Edw. Newcombe
	Tho. Newcum		Hugh Hunter
	Will. Moreton	1591-92	John Hynde
1575-76	Tho. Stanford		Tho. Wilne
	Rob. Wilcookes		Rob. Roberddes
	Rob. Eyricke	1592-93	John Tatam
1576-77	Tho. Hallam		Tho. Nixe
	Will. Wurshipp		John Mabbes
	Ja. Ellys	1593-94	Rad. Chettell
1577-78	Ric. Davye		Rob. Gyllatt
	Will. Ludlam		Fr. Wattes
	Ric. Stanford	1594-95	John Stanford
1578-79	John Stanford		Will. Rowes
	Tho. Newcomb		Tho. Chettell
	John Wilcookes	1595-96	Rob. Heyricke
1579-80	John Tatam		Hugh Hunter
	Geor. Tatam		Tho. Manbye



1596-97	Geor. Tatam	1599-1600	Will. Warde
	Fran. Wattes	1600-01	Tho. Clarke
	Lib. Chamberlyn		Tho. Chapman
1597-98	Will. Yates		John Freake
	John Mabbes	1601-02	Edw. Newcome
	Fran. Wattes		John Wyne
1598-99	Will. Morton		Tho. Warde
	Tho. Chettell	1602-03	Rob. Gillott
	Tho. Manbye		John Bonnett
1599-1600	Tho. Nixe		James Andrewe
	Lib. Chamberlyn		

*Auditors of Accounts.*

<i>East Quarter without the Gate</i>	<i>East Quarter within the Gate</i>	<i>South Quarter</i>	<i>North Quarter</i>
1509-10			
Mr Bartlott	Mr Gyllott	Mr Reynold	Mr Lamberd
Will. Wryght	Rob. Staples	John Chamberleyn	Will. Burges
Ric. Blownt	Walt. Lysle	Will. Fukes	Will. Brown
1510-11			
Mr Burton	Mr Wayzs	Mr Reynold	Mr Lamberd
Ric. Beel	Joh. Martayn	Ric. Lowth	Will. Beest
Hen. Tomson	Will. Gillott	Geff. Day	Will. Sharp
1511-12			
Mr Hen. Gillott	Mr Gillott	Mr Eire	Mr Smyth
Edw. Alsop	Geoff. Day	John Chaumberlen	Tho. Newcom
John Martayn	Rob. Staples	Will. Fukes	Will. Burges
1512-13			
Mr Beeston	Mr Reynold	Mr Lamberd	Mr Harwar
Will. Wryght	John Martayn	Ric. Lowthe	Tho. Newton
Ric. Beell	Laurence Grevys	Tho. Harvy	Will. Sharpe
1513-14			
Mr Burton	Mr Cotton	Mr Reed	Mr Smyth
John Talbot	Geffrey Dey	John Chaumberlen	Will. Beest
Edward Alsop	Rob. Staples	Will. Fukes	Tho. Newcom
1514-15			
Will. Bartelott	Mr Gillott	Mr Chattok	Mr Lamberd
Ric. Beell	John Marten	Will. Prowett	Will. Burges
Rob. Davy	Laurence Grevys	Tho. Bolton	Will. Sharpe
1515-16			
John Talbett	Mr Reynold	Mr Reyde	Mr Smyth
Edward Alsop	Rob. Staples	John Whytt	Tho. Newcom
Henry Tomson	Will. Rubley	Will. Fukes	Will. Best

<i>East Quarter without the Gate</i>	<i>East Quarter within the Gate</i>	<i>South Quarter</i>	<i>North Quarter</i>
1516-17			
Mr Beston	Mr H. Gillott	Mr Gillott	Mr Lamberd
Ric. Beell	Will. Prowet	Raff Garshet	Will. Burges
Ric. Blownt	Tho. Bolton	Tho. Smyth draper	John Hawes
1517-18			
Mr Bartelott	Mr Cotton	Mr Eyre	Mr Reynold
Rob. Davy	Laur. Grevys	Joh. Chamberlen	Tho. Newcom
Hen. Tomson	Edw. Deer	Will. Fukes	Will. Beest
1518-19			
Tho. Burton	Ric. Reynold	Joh. Reed	Tho. Newcom
Ric. Beell	Joh. Marten	Tho. Bolton	Will. Burgese
Edw. Alsoppe	Rad. Garshett	Laur. Hedley	Hugo Garshet
1519-20			
Mr Joh. Talbott <sup>1</sup>	Mr Joh. Waze	Mr Hen. Gyllot	Mr Tho. Smyth
Nic. Wasse	Nic. Heyne	Will. Tebbe	Will. Sharpe
Hen. Thomson	Tho. Hyne	Joh. Whytte	Rob. Gaddysby
1520-21			
Ric. Beeston	Ric. Reynold	Mr Reed	Mr Talbott
Ric. Bell	Will. Rubley	Hugh Garset	Will. Burges
Chris. Stowe	Rawfe Darses	Tho. Bolton	Will. Clarke
		Edw. Lytherland	
1521-22			
Mr Burton	Mr Cotton	Mr Reed	Mr Bartelat
Nic. Wasse	Randell Wood	Will. Leeke	Rob. Gaddisby
Rob. Dauey	Tho. Frynd	Larance Hedley	Will. Sharpe
		Joh. Whit	
1522-23			
Mr Beston	Mr Bere	Mr Reed	Mr Smyth
Ric. Bell	Will. Rubley	Will. Fewkes	Will. Plummer
Mic. Escryke	Rawfe Garsett	Tho. Cotton	Will. Burges
1523-24			
Mr Allsoppe	Rog. Gyllat	Mr Reed	Mr Staples
Rob. Dawey	Randyll Wod	Tho. Cresse	— Clarke
Nic. Wasse	Tho. Hewet	Joh. W. ( <i>sic</i> )	Chris. Clowgh
		Edw. Lytherland	
1524-25			
Mr Bartlat	Mr Burton	Mr Hen. Gyllat	Mr Beet
Ric. Bell	Rauffe Gorset	Will. Fowel	Tho. Bose
Mic. Eskeryke	Will. Rubley	Tho. Cotton	Rob. Gadeysby
1525-26			
Mr Burton	Mr Waysse	Mr Reed	Mr Cotton
Hugh Garsett	Nic. Heyn	Ed. Lytherland	Nic. Reynold
Rob. Davey	Ran. Wod	John Whyt	Will. Westowse

<sup>1</sup> Written above—"Mr Joh. Whatton pro Hen. Gillat."

<i>East Quarter without the Gate</i>	<i>East Quarter within the Gate</i>	<i>South Quarter</i>	<i>North Quarter</i>
1526-27			
Mr Rog. Gyllatt	Mr Beeston	Mr Beett	Mr Teebe
Ric. Bell	Nyc. Heyn	Rob. Gaddysby	Tho. Cresse
Will. Westowse	Ran. Garsett	John Norres	Will. Pratt
1527-28			
Mr Davy	Mr Reynold	Mr Beyr	Mr Reed
Chris. Clowghe	Nic. Reynold	Tho. Bese	John Whitt
Mic. Eskreke	Randyll Wod	John Pycke	Tho. Cotton
1528-29			
Mr Wayes	Mr Teebe	Mr Barton	Mr Reed
Chris. Clowghe	Tho. Myddylton	Rob. Gadesby	Ed. Lydthertons
Will. Olyffe	Tho. Langham	John Norres	Tho. Crasse
1529-30			
Mr Clowg	Mr Cotton	Mr Westous	Mr Barton
Mic. Escryk	Tho. Cotton	Rob. Gadesby	Rob. May
Will. Westows	Tho. Walis	Tho. Bosse	John Whyte
		John Halbard	
1530-31			
Mr Dave	Mr Reede	Mr Barton	Mr Gyllatt
Will. Ollyff	Tho. Crosse	John Norres	Ric. Fynne
Raffe Garsett	Tho. Langam	Tho. Cotton the younger	Tho. Myddalton
1531-32			
Mr Barton	Mr Westes	Mr Gadisbe	Mr Wasse
Will. Westes	Will. Rubley	Tho. Bosse	Tho. Gettelyff
Mic. Escryg	John Westes	John Halbardes	John Walys
1532-33			
Mr Clowgh	Mr Gyllatt	Mr Gadesbe	Mr Reed
Will. Ollyff	Ric. Stapull	John Norres	Hu. Aston
Will. Hufferende	Will. Rokyn	Rob. Maye	Tho. Cresse
1533-34			
Mr Will. Westes	Mr Cotton	Mr Bett	Mr Tebb
Myc. Eskyg	John Sharratt	Tho. Bosse	John Gettelyff
Will. Jolle	John Beste	John Allarde	Hugh Aston
1534-35			
Mr Barton	Mr Gyllatt	Mr Barton	Mr Reid
Will. Ollyff	Ric. Bryston	John Norrece	Hugh Aston
Will. Gybiston	Ric. Stapulles	John Halberd	Thom. Cresse
1535-36			
Mr Will. Westonywe	Mr Nic. Reynold	Mr Will. Tebb	Mr Tho. Bett
Will. Jolle	John Best	John Lambart	John Gytlyf
John Homys	John Scharrod	Rob. May	Tho. Bosse

<i>East Quarter without the Gate</i>	<i>East Quarter within the Gate</i>	<i>South Quarter</i>	<i>North Quarter</i>
1536-37			
Mr Chris. Clagh	Mr John Westouys	Mr Pratt	Mr*John Barton
Will. Gibson	Ric. Stapulles	Will. Overend	John Norrise
Ric. Brysbond	John Wood	John Bostoke	John Albart
1537-38			
Mr Will. Olyf	Mr Nic. Raynold	Mr Will. Teebb	Mr Rob. Gaddysbe
John Holmes	John Best	John Bostocke	Rob. Hollay
Chris. Lambart	John Sherrod	John Lambart	Tho. Bosse
1538-39			
Mr Symond Pays	Mr Roger Gyllott	Mr Hugh Aston	Mr Tho. Bett
Will. Gibson	Ric. Brysbound	Will. Overend	John Norrys
Harry Grene	Ric. Stapulles	Ric. Kelby	John Gytlyf
1539-40			
Mr Clught	Mr Westouys	Mr Ran. Wode	Mr John Barton
John Holmys	John Sheirwyn	Tho. Wilkoxe	Tho. Bosse
Tho. Davy	John Bostocke	Rob. Hollay	John Albard
1540-41			
Mr Clugh	Mr Westowys	Mr Gyllott	Mr Teebb
Harry Grene	Ric. Brisbound	Will. Overend	John Norris
Tho. Ley	Rob. Barton	John Holmys	Rob. Howley
1541-42			
Mr Ollyf	Mr Reynold	Mr May	Mr Newcome
John Holmys	Nic. Heyrycke	John Sherwyn	John Albard
Tho. Davy	John Bostock	Tho. Wylkox	T. Bosse
1542-43			
Mr Clough	Mr Wood	Mr Westouys	Mr Cotton
Tho. Ley	John Sheirvyn	John Norres	John Ollyf
Harry Grene	Rob. Burton	John Smyth	John Bayryge
1543-44			
Mr Hugo Aston	Mr Rog. Gyllott	Mr Nic. Reynold	Mr John Westowys
Tho. Davy	Nic. Garter	Ric. Stoughton	John Norrys
Will. Gibson	John Alberte	Cuth. Pott	John Smyth
1544-45			
Mr Wood	Mr Cresse	Mr Reynolde	Mr Newcomb
Rob. Burton	Will. Alsope	Tho. Davy	John Albert
Hugo Barlow	John Norres	Ric. Stoughton	John Olyff
1545-46			
Mr Gillott	Mr May	Mr Aston	Mr Newcomb
Will. Manbe	John Olyf	John Parr	Tho. Davy
John Hyerycke	Cuth. Pot	Will. Fulwod	Hugh Barlow

<i>East Quarter without the Gate</i>	<i>East Quarter within the Gate</i>	<i>South Quarter</i>	<i>North Quarter</i>
1546-47			
Mr Ollyf	Mr Wood	Mr Aston	Mr Smythe
Tho. Davy	Hen. Barlowe	Ric. Collynson	John Norryce
Will. Odam	John Payre	Will. Smythe	John Ollyff
1547-48			
Mr Lambert	Mr Gillot	Mr Aston	Mr Beryge
Tho. Davy	Hugo Barlow	Rob. Harvy	John Norrys
Will. Odam	Will. Taillor	Will. Smyth	Ric. Welche
1548-49			
Nic. Heyrek	Rob. Cotton	Rob. Jones	John Smyth
Rob. Flecher	Will. Blakwen	John Harryson	John Tatam
Tho. Foller	Ric. Davye	Rob. Bylbrok	Tho. Norrys
1549-50			
Mr John Heyrek	Mr Ric. Gyllot	Mr Will. Overend	Mr John Berredge
Tho. Davy	Tho. Hallam	Ric. Collynson	John Norrys
Will. Odam	Will. Reynold	John Payre	Ric. Welche
1550-51			
Mr Nic. Heyrek	Mr Cotton	Mr Wylcockes	Mr Smythe
Ric. Reynford	Will. Blakwyn	Will. Smyth	Tho. Norrys
Ed. Westes	Ric. Mabley	John Harryson	John Tatam
1551-52			
John Heyrek	R. Gillot	Hugo Aston	John Berradge
Ric. Davye	Tho. Hallam	Ric. Collynson	Ric. Welche
Tho. Fowler	Sim. Croft	Will. Durrant	John Payre
1552-53			
Mr Manbe	Mr Jenkinson	Mr Harve	Mr Smythe
Tho. Dave	Will. Tayllor	Will. Smyth	Henry Stanford
Will. Odam	Rob. Roodes	John Harryson	John Tatam
1553-54			
Mr John Heyrek	Mr Hallam	Mr Aston	Mr Berredge
Ed. Westes	Tho. Bugg	Ric. Collynson	Ric. Welche
Tho. Fowler	Sym. Croft	Will. Durrant	Tho. Norrys
1554-55			
Mr Dowe	Mr Tayllor	Mr Jones	Mr Smythe
Will. Odam	Rob. Roodes	John Harryson	Hen. Stanford
Ric. Reynford	John Hayryson	Seyth Berredge	Tho. Kekwyk
1555-56			
Mr Flecher	Mr Hallam	Mr Aston	Mr Berredge
Tho. Dave	Will. Blakwyn	Will. Smyth	Tho. Norrys
Will. Alisander	Tho. Bugg	Will. Bernham	Rob. Inseley

<i>East Quarter without the Gate</i>	<i>East Quarter within the Gate</i>	<i>South Quarter</i>	<i>North Quarter</i>
1556-57			
Mr Dave	Mr Derker	Mr Harve	Mr Smyth
Will. Odam	Ric. Mabley	Seyth Berredge	John Tatam
Rog. Pott	Rob. Roodes	John Harryson	Hen. Stanford
1557-58			
Robert Fletcher	Tho. Hallam	Hugh Aston	John Bereage
Ran. Charles	Chris. Meatcalfe	Will. Smyth	Jef. Holmes
Ric. Wooddard	Ric. Reynford	Ric. Wilson	Ric. Rutter
1558-59			
Tho. Fowler	Ric. Darker	Rob. Harvey	John Tatam
Ric. Yates	Rob. Roodes	John Harryson	Hen. Stanforde
Ric. Randall	Tho. Bugge	Chris. Marre	Arth. Clerke
1559-60			
Rog. Pott	Sim. Nixe	Seath Bearage	Will. Norres
Ric. Ley	Tho. Flemyng	Ric. Wilson	Will. Burges
Oswold Eyre	Will. Woodland	Will. Durrand	Geor. Ashebye
1560-61			
Tho. Fowler	Ja. Clerke	Tho. Stanford	John Tatam
Ric. Reneford	John Harryson	John Harryson	Rob. Insley
Rob. Dave	Ric. Darker	John Busshe	R. Sympson
1561-62			
Tho. Fowler	Ric. Woodward	Tho. Stanford	John Tatam
Rog. Pott	Ja. Clarke	Hen. Both	Will. Beriage
Ric. Ley	Chris. Meatcalfe	Will. Budworth	Geor. Tatam
1562-63			
Mr Flecher	Mr Eryrke	Mr Nix	Mr Symyth
Mr Yates	Mr Englysshe	Mr Flemyng	Mr Noryce
Osw. Eyre	John Yng	John Wilcockes	Rob. Insley
1563-64			
Tho. Fowler	Will. Manbye	Sim. Nix	John Tatam
Rog. Pott	Ja. Clarke	John Busshe	Will. Beriage
Will. Yates	Ric. Parker	Will. Durand	Geor. Tatam
1564-65			
Ric. Yates	John Eryrke	Tho. Hallam	John Smith
John Middleton	Will. Reynoldes	Will. Ludnaham	Rob. Insley
Osw. Eyre	John Haryson	Will. Budworth	Denis Symson
1565-66			
Rob. Flecher	Ric. Darker	Rob. Wylcockes	John Tatam
Ric. Davye	Ja. Clerke	John Bushe	Will. Beriage
Rob. Davey	Rob. Roodes	Will. Worship	Geor. Tatam

<i>East Quarter without the Gate</i>	<i>East Quarter within the Gate</i>	<i>South Quarter</i>	<i>North Quarter</i>
1566-67			
Will. Manby	John Eryke	Nic. Englyshe	Will. Norys
Ric. Yates	Will. Gillott	Will. Shyngleton	John Wylne
Ric. Lea	Sim. Crastes	Will. Ludnam	Tho. Newcombe
1567-68			
Rob. Fletcher	Tho. Hallam	Sim. Nix	Tho. Stanford
John Middleton	Rob. Wilcockes	Phil. Freyke	Geor. Tatam
Will. Yates	Tho. Tyers	Will. Worshipp	Tho. Wilne
1568-69			
Ric. Davie	Ric. Darcker	Nic. Englyshe	Will. Noris
John Middleton	Will. Gillott	Phil. Freyke	Will. Morton
John Robinson	Ric. Archer	Will. Ludlam	Denis Symson
1569-70			
Tho. Fowler	John Eryke	Ric. Davie	John Tatam
John More	Ric. Darcker	John Stanford	Tho. Newcombe
Ric. Lea	Rob. Rodes	Ric. Parcker	Arth. Clarcke
1570-71			
Ric. Davye	Will. Manbye	Sim. Nix	Will. Norys
John Middleton	Tho. Hallam	Will. Morton	Geor. Tatam
Will. Yates	Sim. Craftes	Will. Ludlam	Denis Symson
1571-72			
Rob. Fletcher	Ric. Darker	Ja. Clerke	John Tatam
John Moore	Will. Morton	John Stanford	John Wylne
Ric. Ley	Fran. Norys	Will. Worshipp	Geor. Norys
1572-73			
Ric. Davye	Will. Manbye	Sim. Nixe	Will. Norrys
John Middleton	Tho. Hallam	Tho. Newcum	Geor. Tatam
Arthur Clarcke	Ric. Archer	Will. Ludlam	Denis Symson
1573-74			
Ja. Clarcke	Ric. Darker	Will. Moreton	John Tateham
John Moore	Rob. Wilcockes	Will. Wurshipp	John Wilnes
Will. Yates	Sim. Craftes	Ric. Parker	Ric. Stanford
1574-75			
Ric. Davye	Will. Manbye	John Stanford	Will. Norrys
John Myddleton	Will. Gyllott	Tho. Clarcke	Geor. Tatam
Arth. Clarcke	Ric. Archer	Rad. Cheytle	Geor. Norrys
1575-76			
Ja. Clarcke	John Eyricke	Sim. Nixe	John Tatam
Ja. Ellis	Rob. Eyricke	Will. Worshipp	Tho. Newcome
Will. Yates	Tho. Tyars	Will. Ludlam	John Hyend
1576-77			
Will. Gillott	Tho. Hallam	Tho. Stanford	Will. Norrys
John Middleton	Ric. Darker	Will. Moreton	Geor. Tatam
Tho. Balladon	Sym. Croftes	John Wylcockes	Geor. Norris

<i>East Quarter without the Gate</i>	<i>East Quarter within the Gate</i>	<i>South Quarter</i>	<i>North Quarter</i>
1577-78			
Ric. Davye	John Eyricke	Will. Worshipp	Will. Manbye
Chris. Alexander	Rob. Roodes	Will. Ludlam	Tho. Clarke
Ja. Clarke	Ja. Ellys	Rad. Cheyttle	Tho. Bugge
1578-79			
Tho. Hallam	Ric. Darker	John Stanforde	Will. Norys
Will. Gillatt	Will. Moreton	John Wilcockes	Geor. Tatam
Ric. Archer	Rob. Gaddesbye	Rog. Stringar	John Hyend
1579-80			
John Eyricke	Will. Moreton	Will. Wurshippe	John Tatam
Ja. Clarke	Ja. Ellis	Will. Ludlam	Tho. Newcombe
Chris. Alisander	Fran. Noryce	Tho. Stanforde	Geor. Norice
1580-81			
Mr Davye	Mr Hallam	Mr Rob. Wilcockes	Mr Tho. Clarcke
Mr Myddleton	Mr Rob. Heyrycke	Mr John Wilcockes	Mr Geor. Noryce
Will. Yates	Ric. Archer	Will. Dakyn	Rob. Robertes
1581-82			
Mr James Clarke	Mr John Eyricke	Mr Wurshippe	Mr John Tatam
Mr Ellys	Mr Moreton	Mr Ludlam	Mr Hyend
Chris. Alisander	Ric. Orton	Rog. Stringer	John Blackshawe
1582-83			
Mr Davye	Mr Manbye	Mr John Wilcockes	Mr Georg. Tatam
Mr Middleton	Mr Rob. Heiricke	Mr Chettell	Mr George Norice
Will. Fowler	Lyb. Chamberlain	Tho. Stanforde	Rob. Robardes
1583-84			
John Heyricke	Jac. Ellys	Will. Worshipp	John Tatam
Will. Yates	Blac. Villers	Will. Ludlam	John Hyende
John Woodford	Ric. Archer	Marcus Dakyn	John Blackshawe
1584-85			
Mr James Clarke	Mr Moreton	Mr Freake	Mr George Tatam
Mr Ric. Stanford	Mr Newcombe	Mr Chettell	Mr George Noryce
John Mabbes	Chris. Alysander	Lib. Chamberlyn	Ran. Stanforde
1585-86			
Mr John Myddleton	Mr John Heyricke	Mr Tho. Clarke	Mr John Tatam
Mr Will. Yates	Mr James Ellys	Mr Will. Worshipp	Mr John Hynde
Hen. Brinckhurst	Ric. Archer	Ed. Hawkes	Rob. Robardes
1586-87			
Mr Myddleton	Mr Norryce	Mr Ludlam	Mr George Tatam
Mr Yates	Mr Morton	Mr Chettell	Mr Newcome
Rob. Gillott	Lib. Chamberlaine	John Bonnytt	John Blackshawe



<i>East Quarter without the Gate</i>	<i>East Quarter within the Gate</i>	<i>South Quarter</i>	<i>North Quarter</i>
1587-88			
Mr James Clarke	Mr John Heyrycke	Mr Freake	Mr John Tatam
Mr Rob. Heyryck	Mr Nixe	Mr Wilcocks	Mr Hynde
Hen. Brynck- hurst	Marke Dakyn	Hugh Hunter	Rob. Robardes
1588-89			
Mr Myddleton	Mr Ellyce	Mr Morton	Mr Geor. Tatam
Mr Gyllatt	Mr Newcombe	Mr Nyxe	Mr Chettell
Will. Rows	Tho. Chettell	Edm. Hawkes	Hugh Marshall
1589-90			
Mr James Clarke	Mr Tho. Clarke	Mr Ludlam	Mr Will. Noryce
Mr Davye	Mr Willne	Mr Worshippe	Mr Yates
Chris. Sutton	John Hall	Will. Warde	John Knight
1590-91			
Mr Ellys	Mr Morton	Mr Geor. Noryce	Mr Geor. Tatam
Mr Gyllatt	Mr Chettell	Mr Hunter	Mr Robertes
Fr. Wattes	Tho. Bugge	Ric. Archer	Arth. Tatam
1591-92			
Mr James Clarke	Mr Tho. Clarke	Mr Ludlam	Mr Hynde
Mr Rows	Mr Yates	Mr Mabbes	Mr Nixe
Tho. Chettell	John Bonnytt	Lib. Chamberlain	Rob. Woolley
1592-93			
Mr Georg. Tatam	Mr Ellyce	Mr Rob. Heyricke	Mr John Tatam
Mr Gyllatt	Mr Newcombe	Mr Hunter	Mr Hynde
Val. Wells	Will. Warde	Geor. Oldham	John Bonnytt
1593-94			
Mr James Clarke	Will. Noryce	Mr Ludlam	Mr Tho. Clarke
Mr Rows	Mr Tho. Chettell	Mr Raphe Chettell	Mr Geor. Noryce
John Woodforde	Will. Bigges	John Freake	Rob. Woolley
1594-95			
Mr Ellys	Mr Morton	Mr John Stanford	Mr John Tatam
Mr Yates	Mr Nixe	Mr Hunter	Mr Hynde
Hen. Brinckhurst	Val. Wells	John Bonnett	Will. Warde
1595-96			
Mr James Clarke	Mr Tho. Clarke	Mr Raphe Chettell	Mr Geor. Noryce
Mr Gyllott	Mr Rows	Mr Tho. Chettell	Mr Newcombe
James Andrew	Ric. Archer	Mic. Thornton	Rob. Owley
1596-97			
Rob. Heyricke	Jac. Ellyce	Will. Ludlam	Will. Norryce
Will. Rows	Will. Warde	Hu. Hunter	Geor. Tatam
Will. Stanley	Geor. Brooke	John Bonnett	John Knight

<i>East Quarter without the Gate</i>	<i>East Quarter within the Gate</i>	<i>South Quarter</i>	<i>North Quarter</i>
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1597-98

Ja. Clarke	Rad. Chettell	Tho. Clarke	Georg. Tatam
Tho. Chettell	Tho. Manbye	Lib. Chamberlyn	Ed. Newcombe
Jac. Andrewe	Ric. Archer	Ric. Burstall	Reg. Fawsitt

1598-99

Rob. Gyllott	Rob. Heyrick	Will. Ludlam	Geor. Tatam
Will. Rows	Ja. Ellyce	Hu. Hunter	Will. Warde
Reg. Fawsytt	John Bonnett	Rob. Atton	Ric. Stanford

1599-1600

Will. Morton	Tho. Nixe	Rob. Heyricke	Will. Norice
Tho. Chettell	Fran. Wattes	John Freake	Tho. Chapman
Will. Stanley	James Andrewe	Tho. Pare	Hugh Marshall

1600-01

James Ellis	Tho. Clarke	Thos. Chapman	John Wilne
Will. Rows	John Bonnett	John Freake	Tho. Warde
Reg. Fawsitt	Mic. Thornton	Tho. Pare	Tho. Eyricke

1601-02

Will. Morton	Will. Norryce	Edw. Newcome	Hugh Hunter
Tho. Chettell	James Andrewe	Joh. Woodford	Will. Warde
Will. Stanley	Bart. Middleton	Joh. King	Joh. Lawnder

1602-03

Rob. Gillott	Rob. Heyrick	Tho. Nixe	Joh. Mabbes
Tho. Manby	Lib. Chamberlayn	Joh. Freake	Rob. Pilkington
Tho. Tayllor	Joh. Pare	Mic. Thornton	Hen. Benyngton

	<i>Fish testers</i>	<i>Meat testers</i>	<i>Leather testers</i>
1509-10	John Chaumberleyn Tho. Pyman Ric. Lowthe	Rob. Metcalff Ric. Broughton Hen. Tomson Laur. Dawson	Rob. Edward Will. Beste Tho. Baker Joh. Boswell
1510-11	Will. Beyn Tho. Smyth Will. Shawe	Rob. Collyns Rob. Metcalf Edw. Chaumberleyn Tho. Newton	Will. Sharpe Laur. Dawson Will. Clerk Edm. Smyth
1511-12	Will. Rubley Will. Mandby John Sponer	Rob. Metcalf Ric. Broughton John Westowes Tho. Welston	Will. Beest Rob. Edwardes Tho. Baker Tho. Spencer
1512-13	Edw. Chaumberleyn John Westowes Nic. Swan	Tho. Smyth Rad. Garshett Rob. Collyns Tho. Waryn	Will. Sharpe Laur. Dawson Will. Plomer Hugh Towmson
1513-14	John Marten Tho. Wylson John Spenser	Edward Alsop Will. Gyllott Laur. Gylberd Rob. Ketell	Rob. Edwardes Joh. Beest Tho. Baker Tho. Spenser

	<i>Fish testers</i>	<i>Meat testers</i>	<i>Leather testers</i>
1514-15	Will. Rubley Raff Garshet John Westowes	Tho. Newton Tho. Grygg Rob. Collens Tho. Waryn	Will. Beest Laur. Dawson Tho. Tomson John Smyth
1515-16	John Chaumberlen Tho. Smyth John Marten	Chris. Robynson Rob. Ketell John Whytt Edw. Chaumberlen	Rob. Edwardes John Beest John Norres Will. Plommer
1516-17	John Westowes Tho. Wilson Nic. Heyn	Rob. Collyns Will. Bysshope Edw. Alsope Will. Been	Will. Beest Laur. Dawson Tho. Baker Tho. Spenser
1517-18	Will. Teyn Tho. Hynde Nic. Swan	John Thorpe Tho. Waryn Tho. Cotton junior John Nicolson	Rob. Phylloppe Tho. Davy Tho. Tomkynson senior John Norres
1518-19	Nic. Heyn Tho. Wylson Will. Pratt	Rob. Collyns Will. Heydeyn Tho. Smyth draper John Beest	Laur. Dawson Tho. Wyman John Smyth Tho. Spenser
1519-20	Will. Bayne Nic. Swhan Larans Dawson	John Thorpe Chris. Robynson Chris. Cloghton John White	Tho. Thomson John Norres Rob. Phelypp John Beste
1520-21	Joh. Whytt Nic. Heyne Joh. Beene	Rob. Colyns Will. Ockedey Tho. Wyllson	Will. Clarke Tho. Spenser Tho. Dauye Chris. Smythe
1521-22	Will. Beene Will. Westose Will. Olyfe	+Will. Sharpe+ Raufe Garshett Joh. Sharpe Chris. Robynson	Joh. Norres Will. Alsope Rob. Phelype Joh. Beste
1522-23	Will. Bene Nic. Heyne Will. Rubley	Rawfe Garset Rob. Colyng Joh. Getley	Will. Plomer Rob. Phellypp Joh. Beste Rob. Wolley
1523-24	Joh. Olyfe Nic. Swhan Radulph Garset	Joh. Darker Rob. Metcalfe Nic. Wasse	Joh. Nores Tho. Dauye Will. Fullwod Will. Allsope
1524-25	Will. Olyff Nic. Heyn T. Cotton	Rob. Colyns John Getley John Wyht	T. Tomson John Best Will. Reed Rob. Wolley

	<i>Fish testers</i>	<i>Meat testers</i>	<i>Leather testers</i>
1525-26	John Olyff T. Wylk John Shyrwyn	Ric. Gylbard John Darkar Will. Westowse	John Norres T. Davey Ric. Rutter Tho. Tattham
1526-27	Nic. Heyn Will. Rubley Tho. Cotton	Rob. Colyns John Getley Ran. Garsett	Will. Allsopp Tho. Tomson Rob. Phelypp Will. Fulwad
1527-28	Will. Olyffe Ran. Garssett Will. Westowse	Ric. Gylbard John Darkar Will. Pratt	John Norres Rob. Wolley John Best Tho. Davy
1528-29	Wyll. Rubley John Hawbard Wyll. Pratte	John Gellyffe Rayffe Gerthred Rob. Parrat	Will. Alsope Tho. Tomson Will. Folowyd Ric. Collensen
1529-30	Thom. Wilcox Mic. Escryk Thom. Cotton	John Darker Ro. Fynnys Tho. Middulton	Rob. Wolley John Norres John Best Tho. Davy
1530-31	Will. Ollyff Raffe Garsett John Ollyff	Ryc. Ford John Darkar Will. Westes	Will. Folwod Ric. Collynson Thom. Tomson Will. Halshop
1531-32	John Halbardes Wyll. Gybiston Tho. Wylkoxe	John Getelyff John Darkar Ryc. Fynne	Tho. Dave Harrie Mabulle Rob. Holey Tho. Tatam
1532-33	John Ollyff Tho. Howytt John Shyrwyn	John a Wode Ol. Darkar Ryc. Forde	Ric. Collynson John Beste John Norres Will. Halshopp
1533-34	Tho. Wylkoxe John Albarde Gorge Barfeldes	Ryc. Fynne John Getelyff John Darkar	Tho. Dave Tho. Wyman Rob. Claye Raffe Wryght
1534-35	John Ollyff John Wode Ric. Fynne	Oliver Darkar Ric. Forde John Schyrwyn	John Beste Tho. Dave John Norrece Tho. Burges
1535-36	Tho. Wylkockes Nic. Carter Will Overend	John Darker Rob. Sheppard Rob. Burton	Will. Alsoppe Tho. Tomson Ric. Collynson Will. Adcoke

	<i>Fish testers</i>	<i>Meat testers</i>	<i>Leather testers</i>
1536-37	John Olyf John Gytlyf Nic. Carter	Will. Warneham Harry Kyndarslay John Lambart	Tho. Burges Rob. Hollay Tho. Smyth Ran. Worrall
1537-38	John Albart Ric. Finnes Harry Grene	John Darker John Sherwyn Keylham Aley	John Best Ric. Collynson John Norres John Bayrygye
1538-39	John Sheirvyn John Bostock John Olyf	John Geitlyf Will. Warham Tho. Wylkoxe	Rob. Hollay Tho. Burgys Tho. Davy Tho. Smyth
1539-40	John Albard Will. Overend Raf. Snep	John Darker Rob. Pratt Rob. Burton	John Norrys Will. Alsop Tho. Davy Ric. Collynson
1540-41	John Albard John Ollyf Tho. Davy	Will. Warham Harry Kinderslay Tho. Burgys	John Norris Rob. Howlay Ric. Collynson Randyll Worreall
1541-42	T. Wylkoxe John Sheirvyn John Bostoke	Harry Grene John Darker Tho. Stanford	John Bayryge John Olyf Will. Blakwyn Tho. Lawthton
1542-43	John Albard John Ollyf Nic. Carter	Will. Warham Ric. Darker Will. Oldam	John Smyth Cuth. Pott T. Davy Ric. Collynson
1543-44	Georg. Cademan John Shyrwyn Hugo Barlow	Rob. Parratt Hen. Stanford Rob. Tymson	Will. Blakwyn John Busshe Will. Alsop John Berage
1544-45	Hen. Mable Sym. Nyx Will. Oldam	Will. Bernham Ric. Darker John Pare	John Olyff John Norres Tho. Davy Ric. Collynson
1545-46	John Olif Sim. Nixe Hen. Mabley	Tho. Stanford Rob. Pratt Will. Oldam	Tho. Davy Will. Blackwyn John Norris Cuth. Pott
1546-47	John Ollyf Sym. Nyx Rob. Tymson	Ric. Darker Hen. Stanford Will. Tayllor	Ric. Collynson John Bushe John Norrys John Tatam

	<i>Fish testers</i>	<i>Meat testers</i>	<i>Leather testers</i>
1547-48	John Ollif Sim. Nyx Tho. Fowler	Will. Bernham Rob. Prate Rob. Tymson	John Ollyf Tho. Norrys Tho. Davy Will. Blakwyn
1548-49	Ric. Hewys Sim. Nyx Ric. Reynford	Ric. Darker Hen. Stanford Rog. Pot'	John Tatam Ran. Hyckson Rob. Rodes
1549-50	Ric. Hewys Tho. Kyckwek Will. Tayllor	John Wilne Tho. Flemyng Rob. Tymson	John Norrys Tho. Davy Will. Blakwyn
1550-51	Sym. Nyx Rob. Tymson Hen. Moseley	Will. Vornham Rob. Shotton Will. Odam	John Norrys Rob. Tymson Hen. Moseley
1551-52	Ric. Hewys Will. Tayllor Will. Blakwyn	Tho. Flemyng John Wylne Hen. Stanforde	Tho. Davy Will. Alysander Ran. Hygson
1552-53	Simon Nyx Tho. Kekwyth Hen. Moseley	Will. Bernham Sim. Tomson James Froste	Ric. Collynson Tho. Bugg Ric. Foster
1553-54	Ric. Hewys Rob. Wyndell Ric. Ley	John Wilne Rob. Pott Will. Syngelton	Will. Blakwyn Will. Alysander Ran. Hygson
1554-55	Sim. Nyx Rob. Wilcockes Rob. Tympson	Tho. Flemyng Vincent Thompson Will. Durrant	Tho. Dave Rob. Roodes Ric. Foster
1555-56	Tho. Keckwyk Will. Durrant Ric. Ley	John Wilne Hen. Kyndley Hen. Stanford	Will. Blakwyn Ric. Collinson Ran. Hygson
1556-57	Will. Norrys Hen. Moseley Rob. Wilcockes	Tho. Flemynge Ric. Spencer Will. Odam	Rob. Roodes Tho. Bugg Ric. Foster
1557-58	Tho. Keykweyke Tho. Sotherne Will. Syngleton	Will. Ludlame Phyl. Freyke Will. Durrant	Os. Heyre Will. Cudworth Ric. Foster
1558-59	Rob. Wylcockes Ric. Rawlynson Ric. Ley	Hen. Parkynson Vincent Tompson Will. Woodland	Rob. Rodes John Busshe Ra. Hygson
1559-60	Rob. Wilcockes John Moare John Lyffyn	Tho. Wylne John Tompson Ric. Rawlynson	Rob. Davye Tho. Bugge Ric. Foster

	<i>Fish testers</i>	<i>Meat testers</i>	<i>Leather testers</i>
1560-61	Ric. Rawlynson Will. Shyngleton Rob. Sympson	Ph. Freke Will. Ludlam Rob. Wilcox	Rog. Pott John Busshe Will. Dave Ran. Hyckeson
1561-62	John Wilcockes Will. Morton Ph. Phreke	John Wilne John Stanford Will. Woodland	Will. Davye Rob. Rodes Ric. Forster
1562-63	Ric. Raulynson Ric. Lee Tho. Bug	Will. Ludnaham Tho. Wynne Tho. Bamforth	Osw. Eyre Rob. Davye Ric. Forster
1563-64	John Wilcockes Rad. Chettell Will. Bynytt	John Tomson Will. Dakyn Tho. Newcome	Tho. Bugge John Dewce Rad. Higson Will. Budworth
1564-65	John Mabbes Tho. Robinson Tho. Worshipp	Ric. Overend Rad. Tomson Will. Durand	Georg. Tatam John Busshe Osw. Eyre Will. Fone Ric. Forster
1565-66	Ric. Rawlynson Ric. Leye Will. Roodes	Ph. Phreke Fran. Noryce W. Woodland	Rob. Roodes Rob. Daveye —Symson Tho. Balawn Ric. Foster
1566-67	John Wilcockes Tho. Robinson Tho. Bamforth	Mic. Clerke Will. Dakyns Hen. Vicars	John Saunders Osw. Eyre John Robinson Will. Newton Tho. Lea
1567-68	Tho. Worshipp Ric. Jackson Will. Rodes	Tho. Robinson Rad. Thomson Ric. Stanford	Rog. Pott Will. Burges Will. Tailor Ric. Foster
1568-69	John Bushe John Wilcockes John Robinson	Tho. Robinson Fran. Noris Will. Dakyns	Rob. Rodes <sup>1</sup> Will. Fone Ric. Jackson Geor. Noris Will. Newton
1569-70	Tho. Wurshipp Ric. Jackson Will. Rodes	Tho. Wilne Tho. Clarke John Thomson	Denis Symson Tho. Ballydon Chris. Allexander Tho. Bugge Ric. Foster

<sup>1</sup> The five hereafter include two shoemakers, 1 tanner, 1 saddler, 1 currier.

	<i>Fish testers</i>	<i>Meat testers</i>	<i>Leather testers</i>
1570-71	Ric. Raulynson Ric. Foster Tho. Baladon	Will. Dakyn Miles Grevys Ric. Archer	Fran. Wattes Will. Fone John Dewars Will. Newton jun. John Bushe
1571-72	John Wylcockes Tho. Nix John Busshe	Ric. Stanford Rad. Tompson Will. Roodes	John Hindes Tho. Ley Will. Taylor Ric. Jaxson Ric. Foster
1572-73	Ant. Eyre Ric. Overend Hen. Pare	Tho. Wilnes Marke Dawkyns Launcelot Woodland	Tho. Balladon Will. Budworthe Ran. Stanford John Duce Will. Newton
1573-74	Ric. Rawlynson Will. Shilton Tho. Nixe	Fran. Norrys Ric. Archer Will. Greyves	John Busshe Tho. Bugge Rob. Robertes Ric. Foster Tho. Ley
1574-75	John Wilcockes Tho. Balladon John Welche	Will. Ludlam Hen. Brynckhurst Rob. Baggaley	Chris. Alisander John Duas Ran. Stanford Will. Newton Will. Fone
1575-76	Will. Shilton Tho. Nyxe Ric. Overend	Will. Warde Tho. Smythe Mark Dakyn	Rob. Roodes Will. Tayllor Geor. Norris Tho. Leye Ric. Foster
1576-77	John Wilcockes Rad. Cheytell Ric. Rawlynson	Tho. Wilne John Mabbes Will. Spencer	Tho. Bugge Ran. Stanford John Dewes Rad. Byrd Nic. Byrkytt
1577-78	Tho. Nixe Will. Shilton Ric. Durdyn	Will. Dakyn Fran. Norris Rob. Ludlam	John Bush Tho. Balladon Tho. Smyth Ric. Orton Ric. Foster
1578-79	Will. Baylye Ant. Ayre Hen. Pare	Georg Wilne Rad. Tompson Will. Basforde	John Duas Chris. Alisander Rand. Stanford Tho. Ley Will. Newton



	<i>Fish testers</i>	<i>Meat testers</i>	<i>Leather testers</i>
1579-80	Tho. Nixe Will. Bigges John Spencer	Will. Spencer Ant. Ayre John Saywell	Rob. Rodes Tho. Balladon Arth. Tatam Ric. Foster Ant. Webstar
1580-81	Ant. Eyre Ric. Overend Lawr. Rudyarde	Will. Dakyn Tho. Wilne Rob. Ludlam	Tho. Bugge John Blackshawe John Duas Will. Newton Rob. Clifton
1581-82	Tho. Nixe Tho. Bugge Ant. Ayre	Miles Greaves John Spencer Hen. Hickman	Ric. Orton Ran. Stanford Nic. Burkitt John Browne Tho. Ley
1582-83	Ric. Overend Geor. Oldam Will. Bayllye	Hen. Sydowne Val. Welles Rob. Atton	Ed. Newcum John Duas John Browne Will. Newton Rob. Clifton
1583-84	Tho. Nixe Tho. Hunt Ant. Eyre	John Tompson Will. Tayllor Ric. Rawlynson	Tho. Bugge John Blackshawe John Browne Ric. Foster Reyn. Fawsytt
1584-85	Ric. Overend Geor. Oldam John Saywell	Rob. Reynolde Tho. Baggesley Tho. [       ] Tho. Ramesdell	Ric. Orton Tho. Smythe John Browne Rob. Clifton Will. Newton
1585-86	Tho. Nyxe John Tompson John Yates	Hen. Syddowne Rob. Atton Will. Francklyn	Tho. Bugge Ran. Stanford John Dracott Will. Knight Nic. Byrkytt
1586-87	Ric. Rawlinson Will. Ballye Will. Ridinge	John Tompson John Dickes Tho. Ramsdale	John Drakeforth Hugh Marshall Ric. Orton Tho. Ley Ric. Wrighte
1587-88	Ric. Overend Hen. Pare John Yates	Rad. Tompson Tho. Grene Will. Francklyn	Oswald Eyre Rob. Owley John Browne Rob. Clarke Rob. Clyfton

	<i>Fish testers</i>	<i>Meat testers</i>	<i>Leather testers</i>
1588-89	Will. Bayllye Ric. Rawlynson John Duars	John Spencer Geor. Oldam Tho. Baggalay	Tho. Bugge Hugh Marshall Tho. Ley Rob. Noryce Will. Newton
1589-90	Mr Wilcocks Ric. Overend Will. Bigges	Ric. Stanford Ric. Payne Martin Spence	John Stanford John Duars Ric. Fawkener Rob. Clifton Ric. Byrkyt
1590-91	Mr Nixe Will. Bayllye Val. Wells	John Freake Rob. Owley Tho. Pare	Tho. Bugge John Browne Arth. Tatam Rob. Clark Will. Fane
1591-92	Ric. Overend Ric. Wilcocks Geor. Oldam	John Freake Ric. Stanford Hugh Marshall	Ric. Orton Val. Eyre Hugh Marshall Will. Knight Nic. Byrkytt
1592-93	Mr Nixe Will. Bayllye Martin Spence	Mr John Wilne Tho. Pare Osw. Eyre	Tho. Bugge Val. Eyre John Knyght Rob. Clyfton Rob. Clarke
1593-94	Ric. Wilcocks Ric. Rawlinson Tho. Hunte	Mr Tho. Wilne John Tompson Arth. Hynman	Ant. Webster Reg. Fausytt Ja. Palmer Wal. Whatton Will. Newton
1594-95	Will. Bayllye John Wilcocks Martin Spence	Rob. Atton John Pare Alyn Backhouse	Tho. Cleymentes Will. Wight Will. Knight Nic. Byrkitt John Wilde
1595-96	Tho. Overend Ric. Wilcocks Will. Bigges	Ric. Stanford Tho. Lewyn John Stanford	Osw. Eyre John Browne Will. Tompson Tho. Awlsoppe Will. Newton
1596-97	John Overend John Wilcocks Alan Backhouse	John Tompson Tho. Stanford John Browne	John Bugge Rob. Browne Rob. Crosbye Will. Knight Nic. Byrkytt

	<i>Fish testers</i>	<i>Meat testers</i>	<i>Leather testers</i>
1597-98	Will. Ballye John Browne Ric. Rawlynson	John Spencer Will. Ludlam W. Fowler	John Stanford Tho. Clementes John Knight Tho. Alsoppe Tho. Davye
1598-99	Ric. Wilcocks John Wilcocks John Stanford	Rad. Tompson Rob. Buckston Rob. Noryce	Rob. Bowyeare John Fletcher Rob. Woolley Nic. Byrkytt Will. Knight
1599-1600	Tho. Overend Ric. Wilcocks Will. Francklyn	Tho. Lewyn Nic. Darker B. Croftes	John Browne Rob. Norice Hu. Marshall Tho. Dauye Tho. Allsoppe
1600-01	John Wilcocks Tho. Bailey Bowet Crofts	Ric. Stanford jun. Tho. Nurce Joh. Stanford jun.	Fr. Churchman Rob. Browne Rob. Crosby Reg. Fawsitt Nic. Burkit
1601-02	Tho. Overend Tho. Stapleford Edw. Baggott	Rob. Atton Tho. Stanford John Stanford	Anth. Webster Tho. Clarke Tho. Vickers Will. Knight Rob. Clarke
1602-03	Joh. Wilcocks Alan Backhouse Tho. Allsoppe	Will. Ludlam Ric. Awman Tho. Overend	Will. Bowyer Tho. Clements sen. Joh. Hynde Edw. Fone Will. Newton



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*F.t.* = fish tester. *L.t.* = leather tester. *M.* = Mayor. *M.P.* = burgess of parliament.  
*M.t.* = meat tester. *R.* = Recorder. *S.* = Steward. *T.* = Twenty-four.

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